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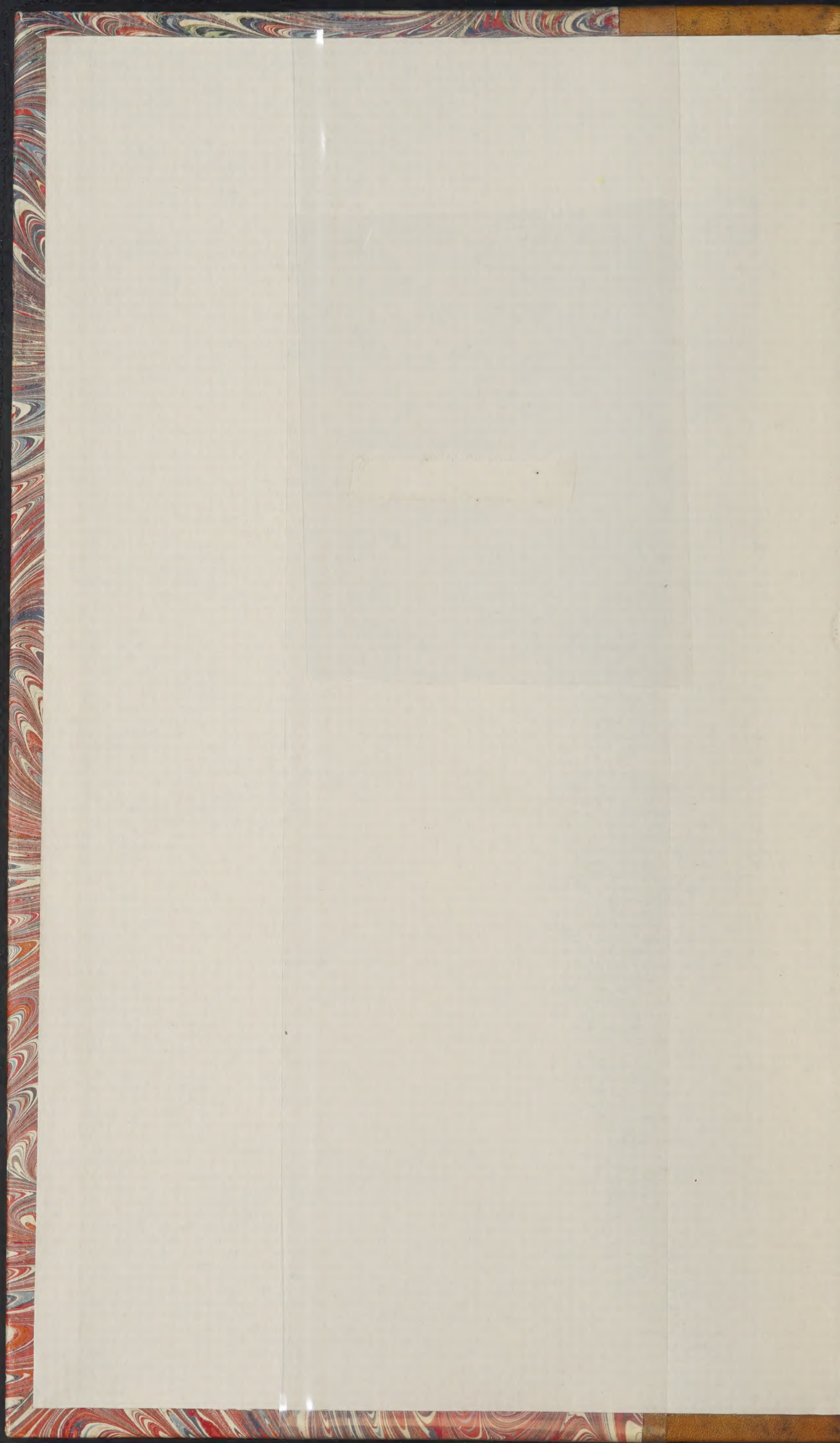
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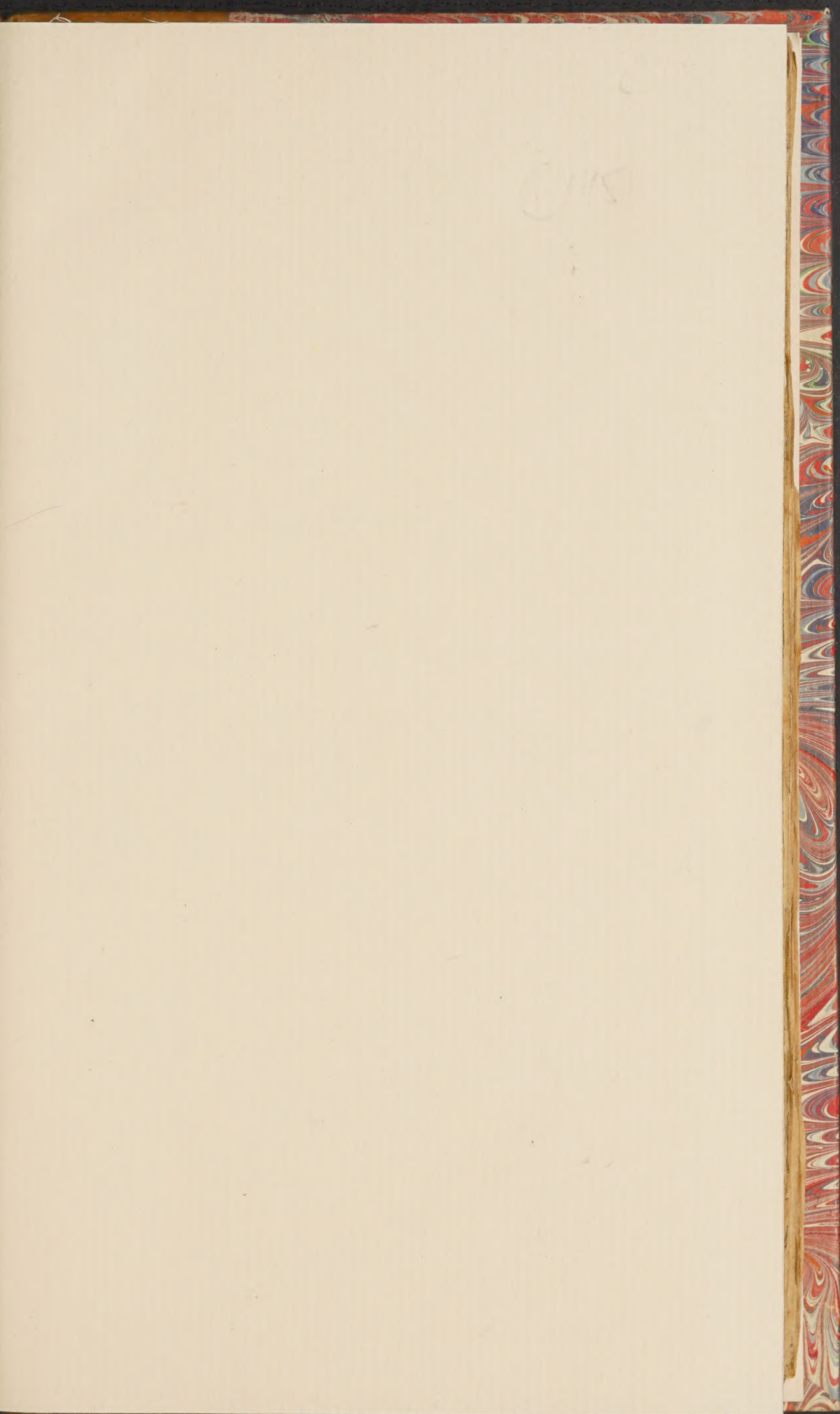
LETTERS
OF THE LATE
EARL OF
WARWICK

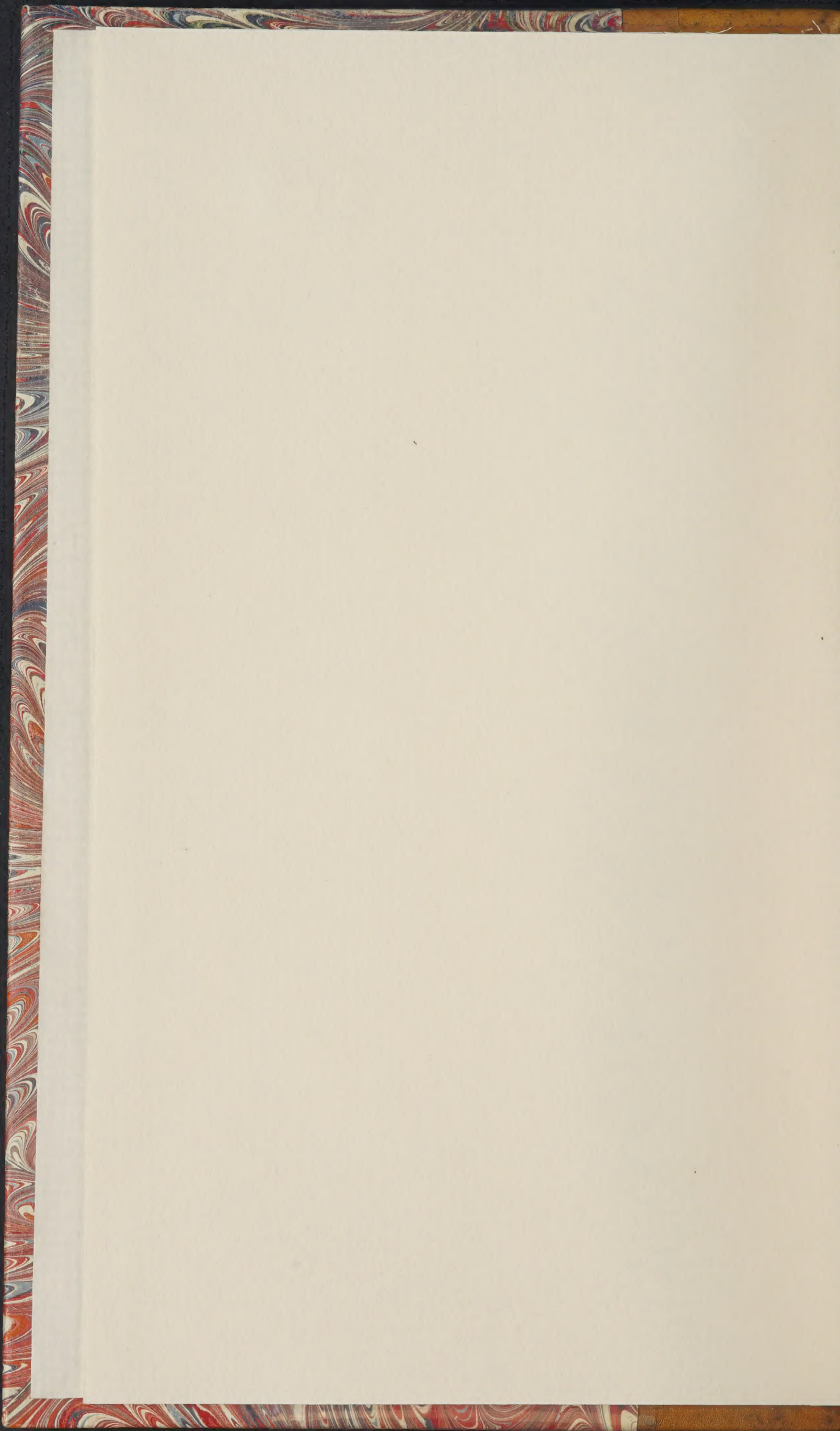


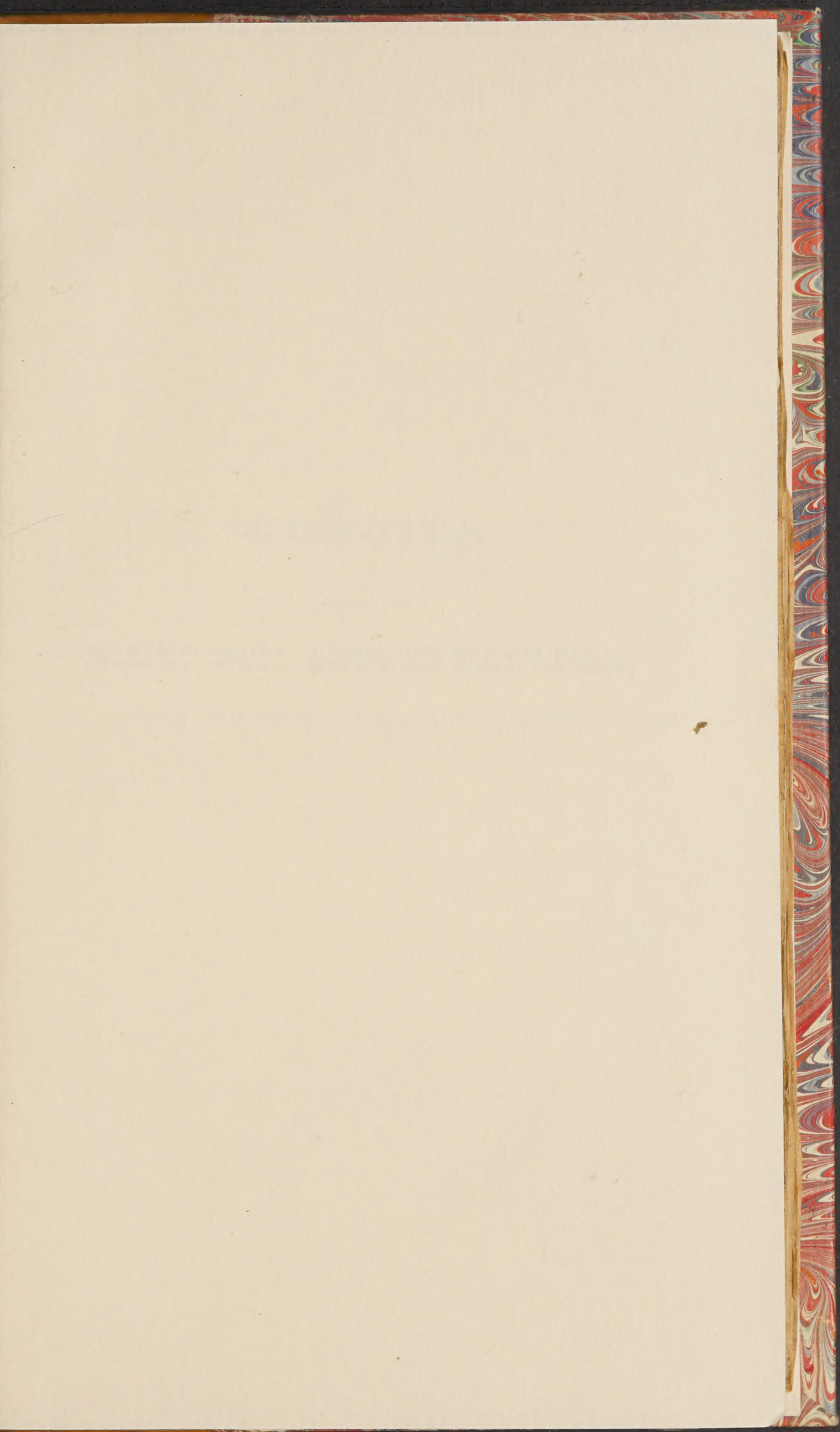


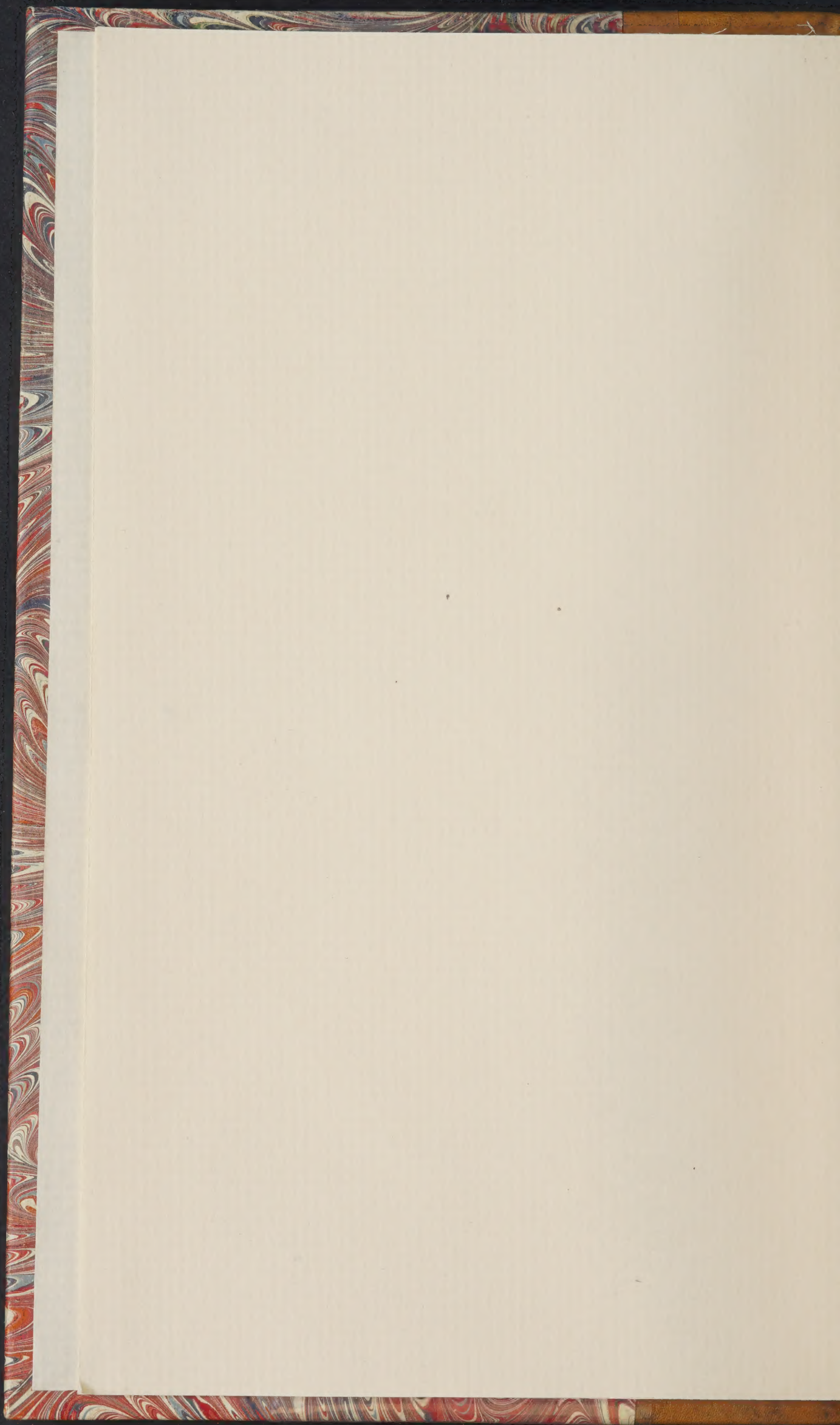










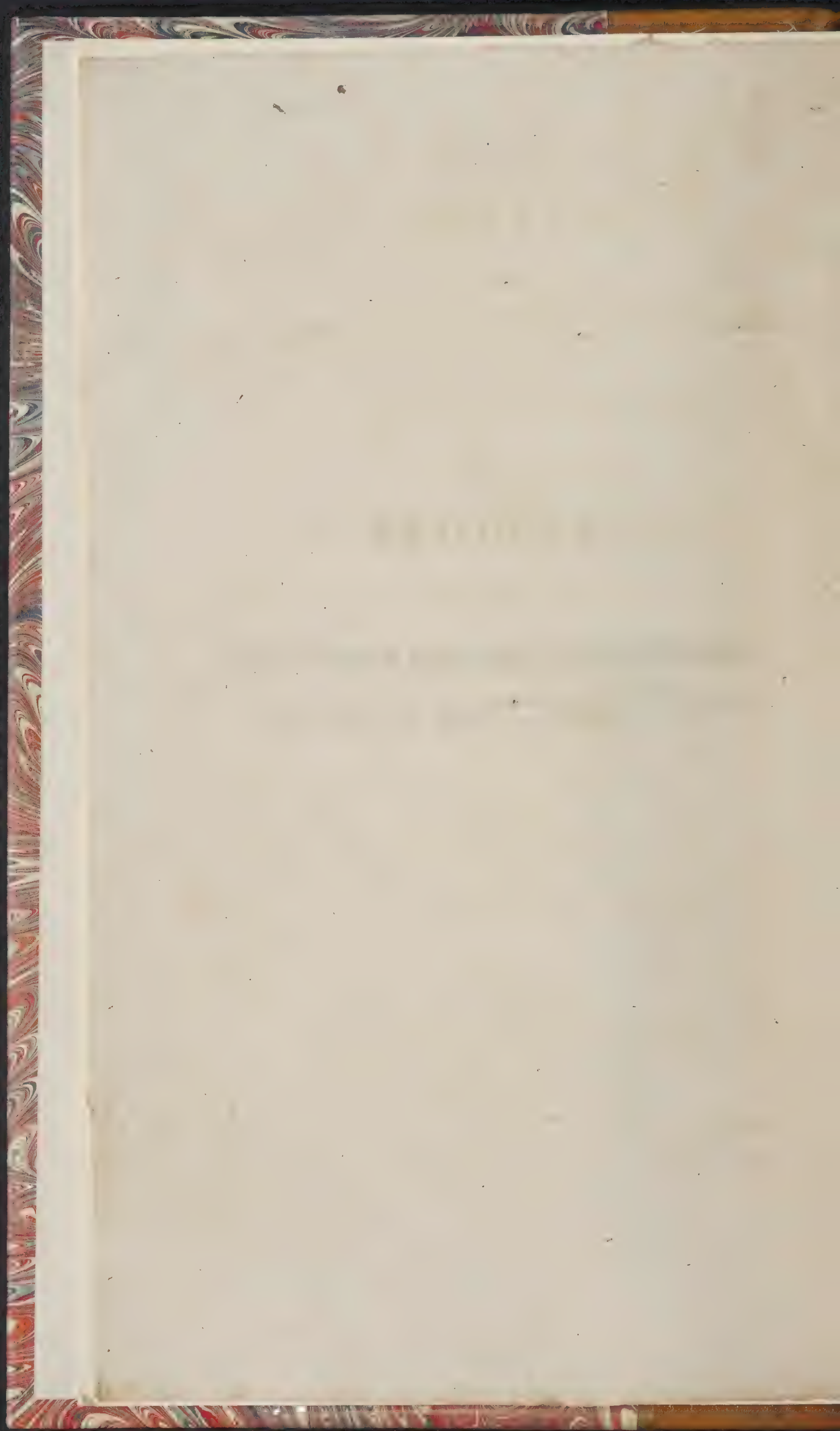


MEMOIRS

OF THE LATE

RIGHT HON. GEORGE GREVILLE,

EARL BROOKE, & EARL OF WARWICK.



Lady Anne M. Russell

LETTERS

OF THE LATE RIGHT HON.

EARL OF BROOK & WARWICK,

TO

MRS. WILMOT SERRES,

ILLUSTRATED WITH THE

POEMS AND MEMOIRS

OF HIS LORDSHIP.

&c. &c.

Can Rank insure a tranquil fate ;
A balm for earthly ills create?—
Alas!—nor Birth nor Splendor can
Insure the bliss of hapless man!
Let *Conscience* strike the anguish'd dart—
But not to wound the *guileless* heart!
Retribution sure, though slow,
May *selfish Pride* and *Love* o'erthrow!

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR MRS. OLIVIA WILMOT SERRES,

No. 1, CUMEERLAND STREET, NEW ROAD, MARY-LE-BONE;

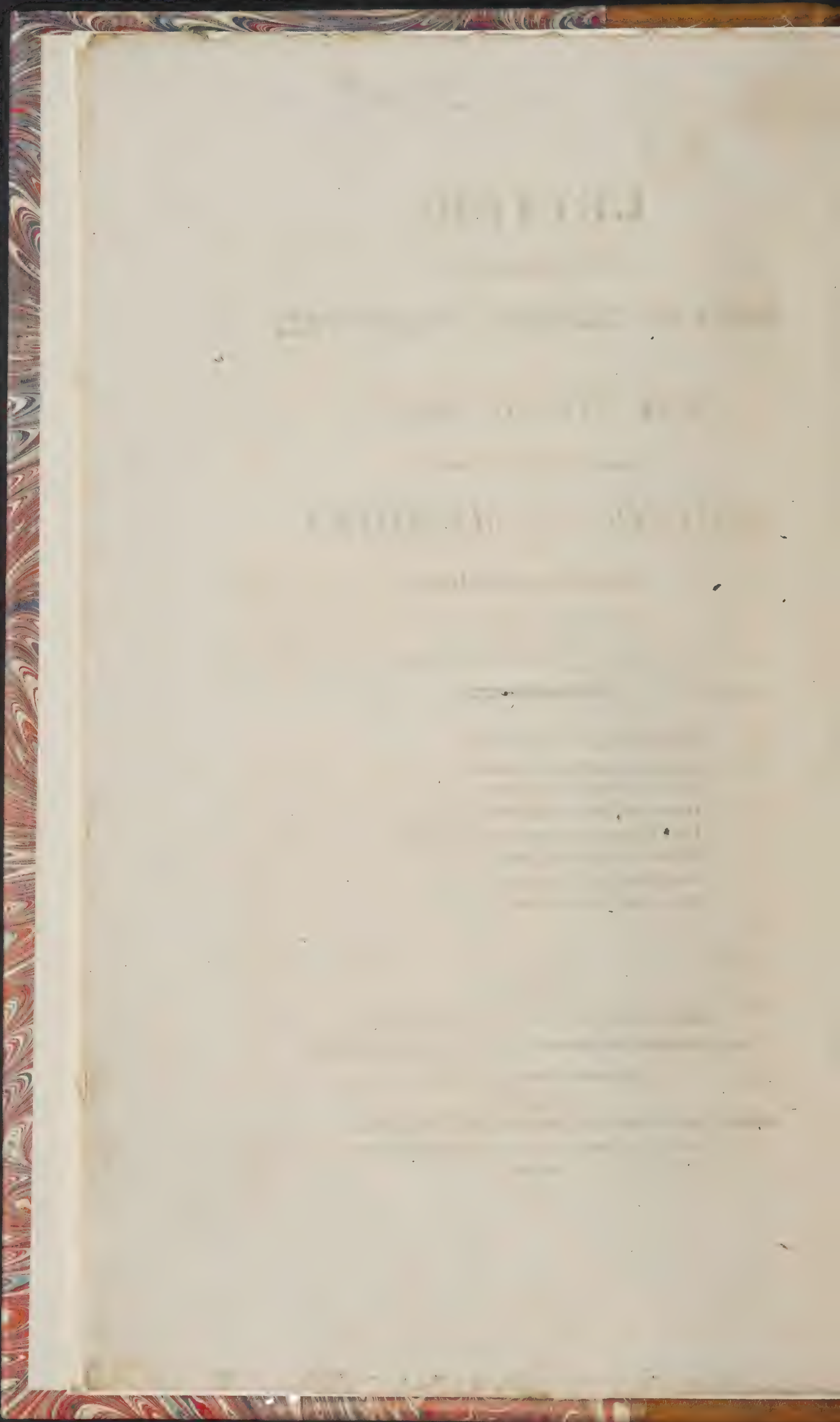
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1819.



TO THE PUBLIC.

THE respectful regard the Editor of this Work will ever entertain for the memory of the late **EARL OF WARWICK**, and the solemn injunction of his Lordship, in his last illness, induces her to publish some of the Letters he addressed to herself, with other incidents of his Lordship's life; which, she sincerely hopes, will not only rescue his character from the unfounded aspersions that his enemies have connected with his pecuniary affairs, but from calumnies, which have been too long suffered to prevail. Acting in strict obedience to the wishes of her departed relative and friend, the Editor, at the time of fulfilling her promise to his Lordship, cannot avoid those feelings of regret for there being a necessity of this Work appearing before the Public.

The annexed Copy of the late Earl's order

for compiling the History of his misfortunes, will convince the world the Editor is not only performing a sad, but a conscientious, duty; who regrets, that the impressive task of doing justice to the late Earl of Warwick's virtues, now he is no more, has not been performed by some immediate branch of his noble house.

Lord Warwick was a religious and moral character; and the principles of honor and honesty actuated all his endeavours to recover a command over his estates. The creditors of his Lordship, had he been successful, would have been immediately settled with, as he said in 1815, "Now the mortgages are relieved from my estates, the sacrifice of land, worth £5,000 per annum, will be justifiable, to discharge my debts;" which he exceedingly lamented should remain in the condition they stood at *that period*. The will of his Lordship, executed some years before his demise, will corroborate the sentiments and intentions of Lord Warwick, better than any thing the Editor can repeat on the subject; who has given a copy of the Will in this Work, for the general benefit of his Lordship's creditors, also being herself one of that class of persons, to a large amount, and

who is, with the rest, still suffering from the losses she has sustained, from having, as yet, received no payment, &c. &c.

The Editor is in hopes the Public will honor this Publication with attention; and, should she succeed in rescuing the name of the lamented Earl of Warwick from the odium attached to it, most amply will she feel repaid for any trouble she may have experienced when undertaking to perform so painful a duty, as the one devolved upon,

OLIVIA WILMOT SERRES.

LONDON,
No. 1, CUMBERLAND STREET,
CUMBERLAND PLACE, NEW ROAD,
MARY-LE-BONE.

(COPY.)

LONDON, *March 2d*, 1814.

MEMORANDUM.—*That I hereby authorize Mrs. OLIVIA SERRES, to write my Life, and to use or publish any of the Letters she may have of my writing, in case of my death, on Lord B—— refusing to discharge the several sums I stand indebted.*

(Signed) WARWICK.

MEMOIRS

OF THE LATE

RIGHT HON. GEORGE GREVILLE,

EARL OF BROOK AND WARWICK.

GEORGE GREVILLE, the late Earl of Warwick, was born about the year 1745, at Warwick Castle, the magnificent seat of his illustrious ancestors. At an exceeding early age, the amiable disposition of his Lordship manifested itself, and equally with his talents and philanthropy, rendered him the admiration of the exalted circle which he was formed to grace. Very few young noblemen were more generally accomplished; his illustrious father having been frequently heard to declare, that his son George would be the pride of the English Nobility; an enlightened honest man! The mind of his Lordship was, indeed, a gem of inestimable value; genius and liberality were its characteristics. The death of the late Earl's noble father, occa-

sioned him the most inconsolable grief. But his Lordship convinced mankind that he really VENERATED the author of his being's memory!—for, with sentiments of filial piety, and a generosity peculiar to his nature, he raised a mortgage on the estates that had so very recently fallen to his portion, and liquidated the whole of his father's debts immediately after his decease! A conduct so honourable, honest, and praiseworthy, produced, in the county of Warwick, an universal sensation of applause. This noble proceeding was the origin of the popularity which his Lordship enjoyed in his native county, until the period of his decease.

Lord Warwick, during the early years of his life, usually resided at Warwick Castle. Fond of retirement, and exceedingly devoted to study, he lived there, the promoter of justice, and the redresser of oppression; and *few* knew want or misery, within the compass of his knowledge, at that happy period of his years. The fortune of his Lordship was not squandered away in ostentation, or idle show, nor thoughtless dissipation. He lived in the noblest style; but his Lordship's greatest pride and satisfaction was derived from encouraging the arts and sciences of his county; and by leading forth merit from obscurity, wretchedness, and want, to the cheerful scenes of competence and ease.

Such was the beginning of a nobleman's life,

who was descended from the most ancient and illustrious ancestors, and possessed of a princely domain; yet afterwards doomed, by the selfish ingratitude of mankind, to years of unprecedented adversity! Lord Warwick was young when he first entered the married state, with every prospect of earthly felicity. His Lordship united himself to Miss Peachey, daughter of the first Lord Selsy, and sister of the lately deceased excellent nobleman of that title; a lady of superior mental endowments;—young, beautiful, and virtuous; possessed of a heart the exact counterpart of his Lordship's. Their union was an enviable state of happiness; for *one soul* appeared to regulate the actions of each. At that joyful epoch, the castle was justly styled the mansion of content!—an earthly paradise! The amiable Countess was deservedly the idolized bride of Lord Warwick; her usual demeanor being the most dignified affability and good nature, while it was her constant study to alleviate the distresses of the unfortunate. She daily distributed alms with her own hand—she fed the hungry, and she clothed the naked!—and piously devoted to her God, *upon earth*, she derived no greater delight than a constant obedience to the will of the Most High:—mercy, and dove-like benignity, were enthroned in her soul; while wisdom and humility elevated her in the esteem of all who were acquainted with her merits. Alas! mortal felicity,

is but of short duration! Thus, the unexpected death of her Ladyship; destroyed the happiness of her illustrious consort; who frequently, at a very advanced period of his life, with tears of sensibility and affection, would expatiate most eloquently on the virtues and rare qualities of his first consort; declaring to the Editor of these pages, that Lady Warwick was a creature never intended for this world; whose graces of a personal kind, although angelic, were exceeded by the accomplishments of her mind.

“When Providence deprived me of so amiable a partner,” continued his Lordship, “existence seemed to have lost every inducement, and I became the most solitary and wretched of human beings. I did nothing but traverse the stately apartments of my castle, repeating the name of my lost treasure, inconsolable, and devoted to despair;—but for the sake of her infant son, considering it a duty to preserve my life, I struggled with the excessive sorrow Lady Warwick’s death had occasioned; and, by occupying my thoughts with a variety of studies, at length became reconciled to the will of Heaven.”

Many characters, still living, can testify the attention paid by his Lordship to his son, whose noble disposition, and promising genius, rendered him every thing a fond and attentive parent could desire. Lord Brook, at ten years of age, obtained the love of his equals and dependants; he

was extremely sensible, and of an affectionate and sincere disposition; and was, besides, blest with the most extraordinary talents, budding forth with luxuriant excellence. At twelve years of age, he had made considerable progress in the material branches of science; and Lord Warwick (as it was natural he should) exulted in the opening prospects of a future great destiny for Lord Brook.

At such a season of earthly satisfaction, few mortals would have supposed that a character so illustriously born, and so affluently situated, with so accomplished a mind, and so virtuous a soul, as the Earl of Warwick possessed, would ever have been driven from his inheritance, and compelled, in his latter years, to submit to deprivations and hardships, which noblemen, of any realms, have seldom experienced. But he has escaped from his Op——rs, and is now happy, in a better world, where his reward is certain, and his felicity will be eternal.---Alas! most of his Lordship's errors were the offspring of too great a sensibility of disposition; all his adversities were brought on him by the humanity and liberality of his nature. The late Rev. Dr. W——, of Warwick, would frequently observe, Lord Warwick should have had worlds at his command, as his Lordship's anxieties to assist all orders of the distressed, and to render every person that was known to him happy, evinced a spirit of munifi-

cence, that the Dr. had seldom before seen in any man!—Yet so humane a heart was lacerated by every mortal calamity!--His estates were no longer under his control, the regard of some of his nearest r--l--tives estranged, and most of his confidential acquaintances found insincere. **THOUGH EARL OF WARWICK, STILL IN RANK,** he was dispossessed of a control over his property, and in point of splendor, lived but the mere shadow of his former greatness!!

THY FATE, O MAN, IS UNCERTAINTY!

After the distressing loss of his first Countess, in child-birth, the Earl of Warwick directed his attention to the improvement of his estates, and, by his own arrangements, made considerable additions to his rent-roll. The Castle, one of the most magnificent structures in Great Britain, he considerably beautified. Lord Warwick told the Editor, that he believed he had expended above £100,000 on the castle, furniture, pictures, antiques, &c.: added to these facts, the Park too, and the surrounding scenery, convinced the world of his Lordship's correct and elegant taste and judgment; every alteration and improvement reflected the highest encomiums on his skill. At that period, artists of celebrated fame were liberally supported at the Castle, and generously remunerated for their labour. Rising genius, in

every degree, was enabled, by his Lordship's fostering care, to soar above an unfortunate Chatterton's destiny; nor could any man be a better judge of Painting or Sculpture than himself.

Lord Warwick was an excellent Draughtsman, and excelled but by very few, in the modern age, in that art. Several of his Lordship's drawings were shewn by himself to the Editor, when visiting Warwick Castle, in company with her late uncle, the Rev. Dr. Wilmot, about twenty years back; who, having since, herself, made a progress in the art, considered the compositions of the Earl of Warwick, in point of colouring and grandeur of design, in no way inferior to the composition of the immortal Claude Lorraine, and in every point of light, resembling the spirit and pencil of that most able master. Lord Warwick was also a very good Poet, and could most exquisitely express the passions. His language was ever a correct portrait of the subject chosen. On subjects of love and friendship his style nearly approached that of Shenstone; in satire, his Lordship resembled Swift; but, indeed, in most that he attempted, he displayed the superiority of a capacious mind, and a ready and lively wit. His memory will be ever dear to the scientific character, of the *modern* and the *future* age. Few men possessed a more liberal disposition, for he never envied the perfections of any one; on the contrary, his Lordship was always eager to lead talent to *public applause*.

The human mind, divested of a dear and in-

valuable companion, prematurely robbed of the object of its esteem, is often prone to a variety of endeavours to divert its melancholy. It was so with Lord Warwick, who was persuaded by several of his noble friends to visit Newmarket, about two years after the death of his first lady. To that fatal epoch may be attributed the misfortunes of his life! Passionately fond of fine horses, and esteemed an excellent judge of their beauties and defects, his Lordship considered himself a very unlikely person to become a dupe to the heroes of the turf. He thus determined to breed his own race-horses; and, to effect this measure, built very handsome and convenient stables, devoting a large portion of his time to the pursuit of his favorite hobby.

The first year of his Lordship's progress on the turf, he met with no loss, but was a considerable gainer, at one season. Had his Lordship rested there, all would have been well; but very few mortals profit by the unexpected tides of fortune, and so it was with his Lordship! Whether the invitations of Sir H—— V—— T——, or those of the late Lord G——, and Mr. V——, led the Earl of Warwick into the unpleasant pecuniary embarrassments to which he became a victim, is uncertain; but such was his destiny, and a distressing result evinced itself. For, in the third year of his celebrity at Newmarket, he lost the enormous sum of £50,000 to Mr. V——, and executed

a bond immediately, for the amount, in Mr. V.'s favour.

Lord Warwick returned to his castle almost in despair, and with a nice sense of honour, determined to lose no time in discharging the debt. He directly commenced the necessary arrangements for retrenching his establishment, and with a spirit and resolution that reflected the highest credit on his honorable sentiments, he did not suffer a moment to be lost in effecting his purpose.

Mr. V—— was apprised of Lord Warwick's conduct, and when the bond became due, paused before he received the £50,000; wisely considering, that a very important family accomodation might be arranged, tending to promote mutual benefit; the Earl of Warwick being then a widower, and Mr. V—— having three elegant daughters, well-educated, amiable, and unmarried, who were brought up under the care of their illustrious mother, Lady O——, and who promised to be patterns of female excellence, in the fashionable world. Mr. V.'s plan was wise and well-digested; and a proposal accordingly was made to the youthful widower, who visited Mr. V—— directly. The latter gentleman then explained himself, by saying, if Lord Warwick was inclined to marry either of his daughters, the £50,000 should be released, and converted into a m——ge portion!* Lord Warwick consented.

* Lady Warwick had a dower of £6000, independantly.

[Talking with the Editor, a few months before his decease, he observed, that he had fared very well, and had been very fortunate in his second choice, until the conduct of Lady Warwick's brother-in-law occasioned family misery and dissension; for Lady Warwick was herself a truly amiable and virtuous woman.]

When this family compact was effected, tranquillity seemed to have taken up its abode once more at Warwick castle; where sumptuous banquets, and liberal entertainments to the tenantry, made a great stir at Warwick; most of the neighbouring nobility paying the nuptial visit, to felicitate the happy pair. But a storm lowered over his Lordship, and a few years after the second marriage, the Castle became a solitary dwelling!

If the Earl of Warwick had possessed a more resolute and stubborn spirit, he would not have become a victim of characters of the most selfish disposition: but his Lordship was every way the dupe of the designing, and, at the period of his distresses, was imposed upon most iniquitously; for, when executions were hourly entering the Castle, he desired Mr. V——, and Mr. ——, to give him an exact statement of his debts; his order was obeyed, and a most accurate calculation, by the former gentleman, induced his Lordship to hope that matters were not *half so bad* as represented by his solicitor; but when the account of Mr. J—— met Lord Warwick's eye, it threw him into absolute despair. At that

moment of distressing perplexity, Mr. B——, a gentleman of high respectability in the County of Warwick, called upon his Lordship, and was requested to examine the accounts. To oblige him, Mr. B—— continued with Lord Warwick that day, and, after several hours inspection of the accounts, discovered the statement of Mr. ***** to be wilfully incorrect.

The following morning, Mr. B—— breakfasted with the Earl of Warwick; and after some hours attention, and further consideration of the accounts, satisfactorily proved to his Lordship, Mr. V——'s accounts were found just; but in Mr. *****'s an imposition of ten thousand pounds against his Lordship. At the time Mr. B—— was writing such memorandum for Lord Warwick, Lord ***** entered the study to inform his noble f——r that it was the hour appointed for Lord Warwick to execute the deeds, which assigned his estates to trustees:—when Mr. B——, considering it a duty to open the eyes of ***** as to the impositions practised on Lord Warwick, wished to convince his L——p of the error in Mr. ——'s accounts. Lord ***** pleaded great hurry to meet the trust solicitors, and declared he could not spare time to enter into details. Mr. B——, however, prevailed on Lord ***** to wait fifteen minutes, and he satisfactorily proved he was correct, as to the misstatements of Mr. *****. Lord ***** appeared astonished at the explanation of Mr. B——, and

wished for a copy of his memorandum, which was immediately written by Mr. B——, and delivered to his Lordship, signed by Mr. B——, with a request that the same might be shewn to Mr. ****, which his Lordship promised to do, and thanked Mr. B——, apparently, very sincerely for the friendliness of his conduct.

A few days afterward, Mr. **** met Mr. B——, and said to him, “Why you had liked to have *marred* all our business, by your examination of the accounts, and opening Lord Warwick’s eyes to the true amount of his debts; for he is such a man, that if he did not suppose himself to be greatly more in debt than he really *is*, we should never have been able to induce him to give his estates into t——t. Mr. B—— heard no more from Lord **** on the subject.

These facts cannot be misunderstood by any *impartial* reader, and it will give an insight into the dreadful and most dishonourable Im——ns, that were practised on poor Lord Warwick. The happiness, future dignity, and welfare of the individuals with whom he was connected by ties of blood, was always an anxious consideration. Thus the Brother-in-law, and Cousin of his Countess, and his eldest Son, were constituted Trustees of his estates; and the control, even of his domestic affairs, was immediately delegated to the Countess of Warwick’s direction.

Lord Warwick studied the wishes of others in these transactions. He literally lived for his

wife and children's welfare; yet he would often declare to many, that in———d a———ges were taken of his uncommon regard. Although to promote the prosperity of his noble house was his constant endeavour, yet all such proofs of virtue failed in producing felicity; but his noble brother, who married Lady Mansfield, and his humane and charitable sister, Lady Frances Harper, of similar dispositions to his Lordship, during his adversities, endeavoured, most affectionately, to alleviate his sorrows, as far as attentive brotherly and sisterly affections could proceed.

On public occasions, the Earl of Warwick made the general interest of Warwickshire a sacred consideration; indeed, his political ideas merited continual approbation. Thus a majority of the inhabitants of Warwick beheld his misfortunes with sentiments of affectionate concern, deploring the change of system that had, of late years, been manifested in his domestic arrangements at the Castle. The generality of his acquaintance were satisfied, that the heart and principles of Lord Warwick were still the same that they had respected in the early part of his life, however his fortune might have been reduced, and his inclinations biassed. The Mayor and Corporation of Warwick, seldom made application for any interference of his Lordship in vain, when his influence or interest could accele-

rate any measure, likely to prove advantageous to the town, as Lord Warwick, whenever called upon, strictly attended to the duties of his high situation, as Recorder of Warwick, always conducting himself with conscientious zeal and activity.

Warwick is materially indebted to his Lordship for a handsome bridge, which he built at his own expense, and which will be a lasting monument of his princely liberality. His subscriptions to the numerous charities, and his attention to the interests of the poor, and indeed his general consideration for all orders of the inhabitants of Warwick, will endear his memory to the lasting recollection of its inhabitants. Although, like the old man, his son, and the ass, he found it impossible to gain the good opinion of all the world, yet he persevered in beneficent offices.

The raising of a new Militia became an object of anxiety to his Lordship, some years ago; he clothed 2,000 men at his own expense, for the benefit of the state, and thus afforded ample proof of his munificence and loyalty. Previous to so laudable a measure, a meeting took place, of the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the County of Warwick, at Birmingham, directly after the death of the Earl of Hertford, Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, and father of the present Marquis, during the administration of the Rt. Hon. William Pitt. Some misunderstanding arising at

such meeting, as to military arrangements, Lord H—— proposed that the business should be postponed till the Minister had appointed a new Lord Lieutenant of the County.

A year previous to Lord Warwick's death, he acknowledged that he had then outwitted his enemies; for, having reason to suppose he was not the person intended for the Lord Lieutenancy, *by the minister*, he left the town of Birmingham, and travelled post, without resting, to Windsor, and, on his arrival at that place, immediately addressed his present Majesty, to intreat an audience. The King most graciously received Lord Warwick, at the Queen's Lodge, on the same day. During the audience, Lord Warwick intreated his Majesty to appoint him Lord Lieutenant for the County of Warwick, who, with exceeding readiness, complied with the Earl's petition; and, on that day, the appointment was confirmed, before Lord Hertford dreamed of any such transaction; and Mr. Pitt too was equally surprised, and no less disappointed, as he had intended the situation for the Earl of Hertford. Lord Warwick immediately returned to Birmingham, and convened another meeting, in the Lord Lieutenant's name. Lord Hertford said, there was no Lord Lieutenant appointed; but the next day's Gazette unravelled the affair. The Earl of Warwick, with his usual spirit and munificence, directly raised the said 2000 men required, and

clothed them at his sole expense; thus presenting to the state as fine a body of men as ever carried a bayonet in the British service; and giving ample proofs of his capacity, by the signal and superior style in which the affairs of Warwickshire were regulated, during the late war.

The diligence and activity of Lord Warwick in all public affairs, was conspicuous and praiseworthy; for he never neglected or procrastinated the duties which his high and exalted situation demanded at his hand.

The death of Lord Brook, his Lordship's eldest son, the only child of his first marriage, was a severe and unexpected calamity. Indeed, every one acquainted with Lord Brook, justly appreciated the excellencies of his nature; science appeared to delight in the opening perfections of his youthful mind. Poor Lord Warwick justly deplored the loss of so promising a genius, and endeavoured to alleviate his afflictions, by scientific researches; in which, his Lordship was joined by the Hon. Charles Greville; whose taste and judgment in the fine arts, will render his memory immortal in the temple of science, and establish his fame to the latest ages. He assisted his brother in collecting a variety of antiques, and displayed a congenial similarity of accomplishments and pursuits.

The Earl's younger brother, the Hon. Fulk Greville, whose character and disposition greatly

endeared him to the inhabitants of the Borough of Warwick, who returned him Member for the City of Warwick, without a *dissenting* voice, at the period Robert Ladbroke, Esq. was chosen by the inhabitants, instead of the Hon. Charles Greville. At that season the spirit of party greatly evinced itself; partly owing to the corporation taking too great a share of the town privileges into their own keeping, which offending the inhabitants, the major part of them determined to oppose the Hon. Charles Greville, whom they considered as leaning to political measures obnoxious to the inhabitants of the place: he having, at that time, no faithful and confidential friend to open his eyes as to the sense of the voters, persevered in his canvassing, and had the mortification to find that he was not successful at the termination of the poll.

Lord Warwick, during that election, was at *the Castle*, and badly advised. His Lordship embraced the unpopular side of monopolizing power, which, for a season, gave dissatisfaction to his oldest friends. Truth was withheld from his Lordship's ears, and the most crafty and interested characters, as he has since acknowledged, induced him to form determinations, the impolicy of which he afterwards sincerely deplored. But the Hon. Fulk Greville, the favourite of the town of Warwick, nobly resigned in favour of his elder brother, the Hon. Charles Greville, who was

chaired with Mr. Ladbroke the next day; the people regretting, with one accord, that their patriotic, honourable, and independent old representative, was not to be their political champion in parliament; whose liberal character, and solid understanding, caused the change to be poignantly felt by the independent inhabitants of his native place, where from infancy he had been justly beloved by every description of persons, and gratefully venerated as the Town's general friend, and as a man of the most affable and benevolent disposition.

The Hon. Fulk Greville, by his friendly and brotherly affection, frequently lessened the anxieties of Lord Warwick's situation, which daily grew less enviable; as the expenses of his Lordship's establishment were carried extremely beyond the full amount of his yearly revenue. Thus, to effect the alterations and improvements he was engaged in, round the Castle, overwhelmed his Lordship with pecuniary mortifications of the most harassing description. Yet, amidst such humiliating events, he continued to possess the affectionate regard and assistance of many rich and honourable gentlemen, in the vicinity of the Castle, who did all in their power to prevent and avert the approaching storm of his fate. But had his Lordship not too confidently depended on some mercenary attorneys and proud arrogant agents, who, riding in their carriages at his ex-

pense, borrowed large sums for his Lordship's use, and their own, at an enormous interest, and obtained advances of several of the tenants of the Warwick Estates, in order to satisfy the rapacious demands of a set of harpies, that were hourly devouring the vitals of his Lordship's substance; who, delighting in the progress of his magnificent schemes, pursued the fatal system; and, before he conceived the possibility of half his dangers, through the conduct of such persons, was compelled to raise money at most exorbitant interest, having already deeply mortgaged all his estates.

At last his Lordship perceived the precipice he was standing upon; and, with a resolution the most laudable, ventured to take a survey of his own affairs; still confidentially trusting in the l---l advisers, (who had made such havoc, and had realized large fortunes in a very few years) expecting from his steward and solicitor's directions and management, the most salutary effects; and conceiving, in adversity, that a sense of gratitude would continue them his friends, he hoped every thing from their regulations and assistance; but he had the extreme mortification to experience the neglect and insolence of many ungrateful individuals, in return for his munificence and favour.

About the period alluded to, corn was extremely scarce at Warwick, and in the County. His Lordship, (if left to himself) was always

alive to the interests of the lower orders of the inhabitants of Warwickshire; thus, he desired his steward to take his horse, and ride round to his tenants, and advise them to bring their corn to market, to be sold at a reasonable rate. The steward, wishing to continue upon popular terms with the farmers, and considering that his interests might suffer by the measure, refused the office allotted to him; and hoped, since his Lordship was greatly indebted to him, that the matter might rest there. In that idea, he was, however mistaken: for his Lordship mounted his horse, and went round to every tenant THAT DAY; informing them, that as they held their lands at a low valuation, if they did not thresh out their corn, and bring it to market, at a reasonable price, his Lordship would never renew their leases, &c. This benevolent and spirited conduct, in the midst of his own mental inquietude, will give the reader a true idea of his Lordship's heart; the benignity of which entitled him to a far different destiny to that which afterwards fell to his portion. But a favourite theme of his Lordship, was—" *Man is to bear and forbear.*" Adversity, though a school of anguish and trial, never fails to produce the desired experience, teaching mortals the most difficult of all tasks, A KNOWLEDGE OF THEMSELVES.

The late Doctor James Wilmot, of Warwick, of the same blood as his Lordship's grandmother,

Lady Frances Wilmot being cousin to the Doctor's grandfather, was greatly respected by Lord Warwick, who honoured him with unlimited confidence; knowing, as he has often declared to the Editor of this work, Doctor Wilmot's disinterestedness, independence, and integrity, he could depend upon him. The Doctor, with a manly determination, ventured to open the eyes of his Lordship, with respect to certain villainous sycophants, by whom his property was hourly devoured. His Lordship felt and admired the Doctor's sincerity: but he was too deeply involved to profit by such salutary counsel and friendly advice. The Doctor, however, endeavoured to serve his Lordship, and justly claimed his gratitude, which he evinced till his death, by the confidence that he reposed in the Niece which Dr. Wilmot had educated, and whom from infancy he had taught to venerate the Earl of Warwick.

During the whole of his unprecedented misfortunes, Dr. Wilmot's Niece (the Editor) remained a faithful and devoted friend; and who, although severely suffering at the period at which this history commences, from the sudden decease of his Lordship, who departed this life before the fulfilment of his covenants to her, a circumstance that has placed her in a pecuniary situation of the most painful and distressing nature:--yet one soothing consolation is left her, that springs from

an approving conscience ; a recollection that ever administers the greatest satisfaction. During the latter years of the Earl of Warwick's life, she was almost the only faithful and sincere friend that adversity had left him.

At the commencement of the Earl of Warwick's worldly cares, the several executions that poured into the Castle, created the greatest consternation in the county of Warwick. Rumour has a thousand tongues ; and thus the most ill-natured and unfounded reports were circulated, to the disadvantage of a nobleman, whose very faults proceeded from the excellence of his heart. Had Lord Warwick been no encourager of merit, no patron of the fine arts,---destitute of taste, and disposed to indolence, inactivity, and of a selfish character, low, mean, and worldly-minded,---he would have escaped the whole of his misfortunes, and never have felt the severe blow which his enemies inflicted on him. *But his disposition was the very reverse of all these !!!*---The fine cielings, pictures, carvings, floors, and chimney-pieces, at Warwick Castle, are living testimonies of his taste. What immense sums have been devoted to the scarce and valuable gems and costly specimens of antiquity, collected by the uncle of his Lordship, Sir William Hamilton, by Lord Warwick's desire, during his residence abroad, in the high station of Ambassador from England to the Court of Naples!---Persons of

refined taste and judgment in the fine arts, will never examine the interior of Warwick Castle, without lamenting the unfortunate destiny of the Nobleman who possessed such an abundance of beautiful and intrinsic property; and who was, by the op—n of others, dispossessed of his hereditary rights.

The posterity of his Lordship will have to respect his memory, if one sensation of just and grateful feeling animates their nature.

The enlargement of the pleasure grounds, park, and court-yard, of the Castle, cost his Lordship vast sums; for the houses situated in Castle-street, the Bridge-end, Warwick, and other parts of the town, standing in the way of his extensive alterations, were sold to his Lordship at very high valuations. This, and the numerous body of labourers employed in the completion of his magnificent and extensive plans, soon placed him in a situation of great pecuniary difficulty, and occasioned the embarrassments which many of his enemies represented to be the result of extravagance and folly. The most extensive woods and trees now flourishing by thousands in maturity, that greatly enrich the estate, inherited by his eldest son, must convince the *World*, that in going to the expense of such numerous plantations, the future interests of his heir was the primary inducement. In depriving himself of such large sums, to benefit the Estate, when he

should be no more, he demonstrated his liberal and disinterested principles; and illustrated the conscientious generosity of his nature more amply than volumes written on the subject can express.

In addition to the above, his Lordship expended upwards of one hundred thousand pounds in beautifying the interior of Warwick Castle.

Once, talking of the exceeding delight his first Lady took in the Castle improvements, his Lordship wrote the following expressive lines:--

Methinks I hear such language sweet,
Her Warwick with affection greet:
And still behold her charming face,
Where Beauty and superior grace
So often claim'd my raptur'd sight,
An angel form, æthereal bright!
While round my eye I lonely turn,
With poignant grief her absence mourn.
Oh! had she liv'd, such hours of care
Had, perhaps, not tortur'd with despair.
Her generous mind, and liberal ways,
The balm for all such chequer'd days,
Would have prov'd a solace blest;

* * * * *

But Time, the friend of mortal grief,
Kind travels on, to bring relief.

The early hours of the morning, his Lordship generally spent in writing or drawing, when no public business engrossed his attention; and used

frequently to quote the old proverb, "*that one hour in the morning, was worth two at night.*" He was exceedingly temperate in all things, and of a studious turn; and no kind of official affairs had ever reason to deplore the indolence of the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Warwick. Persons who have presumed most ignorantly to style him a man deficient in point of mental capacity, could have been but partially acquainted with him, as very few characters of the present day are more generally endowed. Correctly speaking, a variety of solid and comprehensive talents gave brilliancy to Lord Warwick's understanding. He was a good scholar, an adept at politics, an excellent historian, and an experienced philosopher, besides being a tolerable mathematician. He was a superior accountant, and could write a letter in a style of sound reasoning and eloquence, that would not have disgraced the clearness of a Cicero, or the pen of Pliny himself. Such rare accomplishments, united to a genteel and elegant address, and the most interesting suavity of manners, rendered the Earl of Warwick a very agreeable companion to all who had the honor of his Lordship's friendship and acquaintance. Wit and repartee flowed, in rapid succession, from his tongue, delighting his hearers; while good humour and pleasantry were his constant guests, till the fatal *Period*, that with

unprecedented mortification, agonized his philanthropic soul.

But e'en such gifts could not impart,
A balm to calm his tortur'd heart;
When fortune lour'd—false friends gain'd;
Tenderest * * * * *his bosom pain'd.*

Reverting to the period of Lord Warwick's life, that witnessed an unhappy difference between his parents, and occasioned a separation most dreadfully afflicting; no son could, at so lamentable a season, have conducted himself more considerately affectionate. His Lordship endeavoured, by every dutiful attention, to moderate the sorrow of the Earl his father. After his decease, he immediately visited his mother, and, banishing all her past errors from his remembrance, treated her in the most affectionate manner until her death; and then most severely deplored her loss, which he never mentioned without emotions of the most lively concern.

One day conversing on the subject of female frailty and misfortune, and the errors of women, Lord Warwick observed, "That the weakness of their nature, and the unguardedness of their hearts, rendered them the easy prey of libertines; but, I thank my God," continued his Lordship, "that I have never seduced a female, or have departed from the fidelity which a married life *should command.*" Few noblemen, in that respect,

maintained a greater control over their passions; nor had any female, in the circles of fashion, a more faithful husband than his Countess. Lord Warwick, during the whole of his days, led a conscientious life; a stranger to all kinds of fashionable dissipation. His numerous embarrassments had been produced by far different pursuits, and very rational enjoyments.

The interested enemies, who have taken the liberty to style Lord Warwick deficient in point of honorable principle, by such false assertions, could only impose upon the credulity of persons unacquainted with his real merits; as all who had enjoyed the honor of being personally known to him, acknowledged the superiority of his virtues, as well as his solid and comprehensive acquirements. His manners and deportment were those of an accomplished Nobleman, and his conversation possessed the combined charms of eloquence, pleasantry, and wit.

Lord Warwick had an extraordinary passion for fine horses. Besides possessing a princely stud, he usually drove a carriage and six; and if the horses, in point of size, form, colour, and spirit, were not exactly matched, others were sought after, and purchased, which rendered him the victim of the vilest impositions; for, as the horses required were to be immediately paid for, acceptances for double their value, to compensate for a deficiency of prompt payment, were extorted

from his Lordship; who not keeping a regular entry of such transactions in his pocket-book, trusted entirely to the honesty of agents and servants, being in his own disposition without a particle of suspicion in his character. His purse was thus emptied continually by persons of the most interested description, who were fattening on the spoil of his Lordship's possessions, under the mask of confidence and attachment. He however exerted vigour enough to discharge his head coachman's demands, who retired with a handsome landed property, and also his *****, who shared the same good fortune.

A gentleman introduced his Lordship soon afterwards to a relative of the celebrated Mr. Vancouver, who made a voyage round the *world*, and whose abilities even his enemies must allow. This gentleman, with a persevering industry, put his Lordship's affairs into a state of settlement, that promised fairly, in the commencement of his plans. By Mr. Vancouver's assistance, Lord Warwick released the Castle from several unpleasant *Visitors*, and reduced many unjust demands on the estates.

The author of these memoirs is aware, that Mr. V.'s influence and regulations created great envy and disapprobation among the tenants of his Lordship; for his predecessors had conciliated the favor of the Farmers, and had been benefited by their presents. Accordingly, the punctuality

and correctness of the new Steward's accounts, was a matter totally unexpected. Mr. V. from a sense of justice to Lord Warwick, pointed out to his Lordship's notice, the exact situation of his Tenantry; and called his attention, too long occupied in the beautifying of the Castle and the pleasure grounds, to matters of pecuniary interest, connected with the duties which his situation imposed. By the advice of Mr. V., his Lordship purchased a large tract of land in Wales, capable of the greatest improvements, and borrowed a portion of the purchase-money, at an exceeding moderate interest, Mr. V. proposing an improvement, that appeared to his Lordship very judicious, and likely in the end, if carried into effect, to increase the value of the land so purchased, at least one third. With the most laudable and praise-worthy intentions, Lord Warwick entered into that concern, as he was anxious to increase the fortune of his younger children, (a matter that always hung heavy on his Lordship's spirits, especially towards the close of his days.)

Had not the ***** of his Lordship interfered, the speculation would have turned out uncommonly successful; but every kind of oppression was resorted to, to prevent the estates remaining in his Lordship's power. The balance owing of the purchase-money was rigorously pressed for; and the whole of the sums expended in improvements lost to his Lordship; for the lands came,

by such arrangements, prematurely to the hammer; and *others* profited by the improvements, which had increased the value of the lands one third, by the exertions of Lord W——k and Mr. V——. This statement the Editor received from his Lordship's solicitor, a short period before the Earl's decease; who at the same time declared, that there was due to Lord Warwick, from the Trust, a sufficiency for all his creditors, which statement the Earl of Warwick frequently corroborated himself.

At the time alluded to, through the losses and oppressions his Lordship daily suffered, it appeared impossible that he should continue at the noble mansion of his ancestors: accordingly, the late Lord Galway and Lord Ossory, the Countess of Warwick's brother, were applied to, and intreated to assist his Lordship, and relieve the castle from the executions that threatened its most magnificent contents. Pictures, statues, antiques, furniture, plate, linen, were seized. In that distracting hour, a deed of trust was proposed to release his Lordship, and to preserve in the family valuables that were the first in England. A large sum was required to be raised, but nothing could be done without complete security: the time was almost expired that insured a continuance of the Castle's grandeur. Lord Warwick was, (as he has himself since declared,) almost petrified with anxiety and sorrow. He proposed several

mediums of relief, and in a fit of despair, placed his signature to a deed, that for ever deprived him of a control over his rights. He has often acknowledged that he did not sufficiently examine the papers. He solemnly declared to his Solicitor and to the Editor, that had he been more collected, and less pressed by time, he would have rather suffered the loss of his right hand, than to have so committed himself. His Lordship's impression was, that the estate would in a few years be his own again, the moment the mortgages were liquidated. But on the contrary, as the Trust raised £23,000, to pay executions out of the Castle, a clause was introduced in the said deeds, which expressed, that when the mortgages were cleared, his Lordship should receive the surplus rents; but not till he had refunded the sum of £23,000, for which the Trust held possession of the furniture of the Castle.

Several of the most honourable friends of his Lordship, possessed of an old standing in the county, painfully perceived how greatly his Lordship's future welfare depended on the feeling and justice of Lady Warwick's relatives, which determined them not to interfere in any of his Lordship's affairs. By the regulations of the fatal deed (as Lord Warwick would call it) of usurpation, a stipulated sum was secured to Lady Warwick, for the purposes of family support. To her Ladyship, that income was regularly

paid; and his Lordship declared, from that hour he became a dependant on the will and pleasure of his wife. One thousand pounds per annum was to have been paid to his Lordship, for his privy purse; but the attestations made in the Court of Chancery, in the year of his Lordship's decease, declare that this sum had been withheld *more than ten years!* and his Lordship's creditors may justly lay claim to such arrears. The Earl of Warwick, to use his own words, was "driven from the Castle by i——d * * * *, who had taken every advantage of his troubles, in the most unjustifiable manner, and condemned him to an obscurity and retirement unparrelled."

In the year 1805, he renewed his acquaintance with the Editor, to whom he most condescendingly imparted his real situation, solemnly declaring, that he was a most unhappy man; and although of such high rank, he had not a shilling secured him from the grasp of his m——ss * * * *. It was impossible to listen to his Lordship's narrative, without tears:—that day, he protested, that he had not a sixpence in his purse, and that he had been the whole of the morning endeavouring to borrow of some friend, £500. The Editor was full of concern while she listened to so affecting a detail; but recollecting a present that had been lately made her of a fine antique, she intreated his Lordship to raise on that, and a pair of bracelets, the sum which he so greatly

seemed to stand in need of, which for nearly an hour he refused; but at length was prevailed upon to accept the Editor's offer, and expressed his gratitude in so warm a manner, that the Editor felt extremely happy that she had it in her power to serve a Nobleman whom she so highly venerated. The following letter evinced his Lordship's sense of her friendship :---

"MADAM,

"To say I am obliged, is but a common expression, after such proofs of your regard. At this moment every sentiment of my heart is gratitude; and proud will the period be that enables me to return, with interest, your generosity. I shall have the pleasure of waiting upon you tomorrow, at one.

"I am, Madam,

"Your faithful friend,

"WARWICK."

The next morning, at the appointed hour, Lord Warwick was punctual in his visit, and exceedingly gratified the Editor, by acquainting her, that a confidential person had raised £50 upon the antique, and £350 more upon a pair of bracelets; for which his Lordship said he was willing to give the Editor an acknowledgment, on a regular stamp. She, however, entertained

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no such desire, as she was convinced of his Lordship's honour, which she considered as a sufficient bond in her favour. His Lordship appeared in excellent spirits! and gallantly observed, that as his lucky planets had bestowed upon him so excellent and firm a friend, he should cease to lament his misfortunes. All this was very pleasing to the Editor, who would willingly have parted with fifty such baubles, had she possessed them, to promote the happiness of a Nobleman for whom she felt the highest regard.

After this renewal of acquaintance, the visits of Lord W—— became very frequent, and most of his Lordship's affairs were imparted to herself. Often when the Editor was painting, his Lordship used to look over her, as he politely said, to improve his knowledge of the art. This mark of attention was appreciated by the Editor, and it produced a sincere friendship in the breast of the party. His Lordship, whenever intreated to give his opinion of any picture painted by the Editor, never hesitated: thus he might be justly deemed her instructor, as his refined taste and judgment were of infinite service, at the same time that his approbation inspired her with emulation to excel. Her venerable uncle, when informed of the honour conferred by his Lordship's polite attentions to his favourite niece, was highly rejoiced; and in one of his letters he thus expresses himself:—"The regard you enter-

tain for so virtuous a Nobleman cannot subject you to regret. I know Lord Warwick's soul; it delights in genius such as you possess; and I augur from his Lordship's patronage and protection, every thing favourable to your future fame."

When his Lordship was absent from London, he frequently addressed letters to the Editor; but most of his epistolary correspondence was saddened with melancholy details of family vexations, on account of certain persons. These details are not inserted here, although they would reflect credit on the Editor, whose wish is not to wound, however she may be INJURED HERSELF.

The illness of a favorite daughter, and her death at Clifton; a daughter, whose amiable disposition, talents, and accomplishments, endeared her to a most affectionate father, occasioned to his Lordship grief, of the most inconsolable nature. Previous to her death, Lord Warwick addressed the Editor on the subject of his limited circumstances, and lamented that his' destiny was become deplorable, for he suffered humiliation beyond the conception of any person's supposition. "I am now, literally, a dependant," said he; "not even master of my own h——d. I cannot discharge one insolent servant; dispossessed both of power and resources; and am miserable beyond conception. I hope things will mend—All lies in the will of Heaven! My beloved daughter may yet be spared."—Lord

Warwick's letter concluded with the following lines:—

“How truly chequer'd is the life of man!
It is, at best, a soul-afflicting span
Of mortal cares; whose ills, such pain bestow,
The moments seem of one continual woe.”

A few months after his daughter's decease, the Earl of Warwick arrived in town; and immediately paid a visit to the Editor, accompanied by a Mr. M——, whom he introduced as his respected friend. Lord W—— was in mourning, but appeared resigned, and in the calmest spirits; he seemed delighted with the number of pictures the Editor had painted, during his absence. She at that period resided near his Lordship's son-in-law, Earl Clonnel, at the lower end of St. James's Square. These matters are introduced here, to convince the public that the Editor offers nothing but facts to the *World*.

During this visit, his Lordship consented to receive the dedication of a book of Poems, which the Editor was printing; and declared he should call in a day or two to thank her for the two £25 notes, she had remitted to him at Clifton.

At that period of his Lordship's life, he was living in a most economical manner, as the sum allowed for his own pocket, was but £20 per month. The Editor would not receive a £20 note that he brought with him on his third visit,

but requested his Lordship, at that time, not to distress himself about the matter, as the Editor did not want it. He then told her that his favorite horse had been seized under an execution, and that it must go, unless he could manage to redeem it. "You will not think it credible," continued his Lordship, "but, upon my honor, I have not one friend in the world, to whom I can apply to assist me, or I would not have mentioned the circumstance."

Finding the horse had cost £80, a thought struck the Editor, that the matter could be accomplished without inconvenience:—being intimate with Mr. Morland, the Banker, in Pall Mall, a couple of Cabinet Pictures were placed in that gentleman's hands, who most handsomely made the desired advance, to the exceeding joy of the Earl of Warwick, who, two days after, called on the Editor, the moment his Lordship obtained the horse, convinced she would participate in the satisfaction he felt in its recovery.

His Lordship also, in the same month, received from the Editor two fine pictures, of the old school, a *Salvator*, valued at £500; and a *Rembrandt*, valued at £500. The latter of the pictures, the Marquis of Headfort saw at the Editor's residence one month previously, and acknowledged it was a wonderful Painting; also the Marquis of Hertford, and Lord Castlereagh, called to see them, who likewise considered them

most extraordinary pictures. Lord Warwick assured the Editor, that the sale of these pictures had relieved him from two executions, that were then impending; and that Mr. ———, a gentleman, advanced his Lordship, on the pictures, what he requested; and Lord Warwick offered to pay the Editor, by way of annuity, for them. The affair was left to his Lordship's generosity, who agreed to pay her £100 per annum; *but she never received more than Fifty Pounds of the money.* However, she has just and legitimate claims to the full recovery of this money.

The moment his Lordship learned that the Poems, dedicated to himself, were published, he sent for fifty copies, and desired the Editor to consider him a subscriber to the amount of £50; observing, in a note, "I shall live, I hope, to recover my estates; and then it will be a duty on my part, to render you securely independent for life."

His Lordship's spirits, at that season, seemed mending daily, after the pictures had released him from some pecuniary pressure. He was of too open a disposition to disguise any thing he felt; thus, when he visited the Editor with a clouded brow, he would inform her of the *whys* and the *wherefores* of his trials.—Whilst listening to his distressing details, it often astonished the Editor to find that he possessed so great a portion of fortitude, amidst such sorrows.

The attention of his uncle, Sir William Hamilton, in often presenting his Lordship with the scarce and valuable remains of ancient art and taste, whilst in Rome, Lord Warwick properly appreciated, till the hour of his death; indeed, the gratefulness of his nature induced him, on his uncle's marriage with the beautiful and accomplished Mrs. ———, to wave the objections of other members of his noble family, who considered their blood degraded by the union. Lord Warwick affectionately loved his mother's brother; and resolved, by every polite and friendly attention, to give his new aunt that consequence in the world which she was entitled to possess, as the consort of the English Ambassador at the Court of Naples. That many of the *Fashionable World* dissented from his opinion on this head, was a matter of little consideration with Lord Warwick; who has often been heard to say, that the beauty, accomplishments, and good-nature of his aunt, rendered her one of the most interesting women of the age! Lady H——, on her side, loved and venerated the Earl of Warwick, often regretting, with tears of the most affectionate solicitude, the exceeding sorrow so illustrious a character was doomed to suffer. For although Lord Warwick's family were moving in the most exalted circle, and apparently rich and happy, wearing the aspect of independent grandeur, yet his Lordship was so unfortunately situated,

as to be often without a guinea in his purse!— At such seasons, the kindness of Sir William H—— manifested itself, as well as that of his youthful aunt, and evinced every sympathy in his favour. Sir William perceived that all confidence had vanished between the Earl and some characters, who may, perhaps, at this hour, feel the pangs and agonizing stings which guilty conscience cannot fail to inflict!

Lord Warwick often lamented the patriotic Emma's destiny, and at the period of the latter misfortunes of her life, advised measures likely to interest the country in her favour.

Superior to every degree of prejudice, Lord Warwick, in most cases, consulted his own conscience, seldom or ever suffering himself to be guided by the prejudices of others. Lady Hamilton had served his Lordship in the days of her prosperity: he afterwards nobly recollected the many acts of friendship that he had received at Sir William's and her Ladyship's hands, at a season when adversity had nearly deprived her of all her friends, and when such donations could not fail to be of essential service to Lady Hamilton. Lord Warwick would frequently present her with ten or twenty pounds, out of the small income allowed to his Lordship from his Trust. He often declared, that the moment his estates were again at his disposal, he should feel a proud pleasure in settling on Lady Hamilton a

certainly, to secure her from the want of pecuniary aid in old age; and most religiously would his assurance have been performed, had it pleased Divine Providence to spare him, till he gained the chancery suit in which he was engaged previous to his death.

The Editor here inserts Lord Warwick's description of Lady Hamilton, for the perusal of her readers:

Fair as she's witty—few more wise—
 Lovely features, and most speaking eyes
 Majestic, Beauteous, and Sincere,
 Her noble actions must endear.
 Child of Genius, and the Muses' pride!
 For her lov'd sake, Nature has denied
 Such numerous charms to other fair;
 Emma's nature's joy and proudest care!

When Lord Warwick learned the unhappy termination of this unfortunate female's life, and the manner in which her remains were treated at Calais, he shed many tears to her memory, declaring that nothing would have afforded him more satisfaction, than to have brought her remains to this country, to be interred with Sir William Hamilton's. Very few of his Lordship's family regarded the unexpected humiliation of Lady Hamilton, whose fascinations, while in their meridian, were passed over with apathy, supercilious hauteur, and neglect. Virtue is a proud

triumph in some females' breast; but personal honor does not quite compensate for uncharitableness in the soul of woman; and it is very frequently seen, that the most chaste are the most inveterate towards characters of their own sex, who may, in the slightest degree, have erred in point of personal purity.

Honi soit qui mal y pense—

Was a favorite motto of Lord Warwick's, who highly reprobated the illiberality of those persons who made self-importance, and prejudiced opinions, the study of their lives. No character could better discriminate, than his Lordship, upon the general views and affairs of mankind. Few noblemen possessed so clear a judgment;—few could display that great fortitude which supported his Lordship in many hours of trial and distress.

Had a proper time been allowed for Lord Warwick to examine the deeds that were to banish him for ever from the Castle of his noble ancestors, his own discrimination and judgment would have secured him from the fatal thralldom, to which he became subjected, on his signature confirming so un———ed a measure. From that distressing period his latter misfortunes have dated their origin. His natural firmness of temper forsook him; and, in a harassed state of

spirits, the selfish family compact was ratified; and which, from subsequent circumstances, will operate as a warning to all *****; and it is to be hoped, that it will protect futurity from such C——s of B——d.

Lord Warwick was anxious, in the year 1816, that all difference between Lord O——, his son, and himself, should be settled by arbitration. The situation of his numerous creditors, at that season, seriously depressed his spirits, when he discovered, that what might have liquidated his just debts, was spent in the most extravagant and wanton manner, by Mr. *****; for the farm-houses on his estates, that had of late years been rebuilt, were better adapted for the residence of persons of fortune, than to be the habitations of persons depending on their daily labour for support.

At the period of Lord Warwick's decease, his rent-roll was almost twenty-five thousand pounds per annum, independent of the handsome revenue his valuable Coal Mines in Somersetshire, and his Stone Quarries, in Warwick, would have produced; and which, we may observe, might have been worked to the utmost advantage, had the judicious plans of his Lordship been adopted, and carried into effect.

In 18** he had some pecuniary transactions with the Editor, who persuaded his Lordship to take legal opinions on his truly unprecedented

case. At that period, he was almost in despair; Mr. ———, an eminent Solicitor, in whom Lord Warwick had reposed great confidence, afforded him few hopes, in the actual state of things; as the estates of his Lordship had not been released from the exceeding heavy mortgages with which they had been charged. Another year, his Lordship said, would be a more favorable period for his claiming redress in a court of equity.

The Editor, with extreme concern, observed the embarrassments to which his Lordship was hourly exposed, and compelled to endure, so as to prey eventually upon his spirits; she intreated him to live a less retired life, and to move occasionally in the circles of fashion, as his high and exalted rank entitled him to do. His Lordship's reply, greatly astonished the Editor; for he declared that his wardrobe was so limited, that it did not admit of his profiting by her friendly advice. "I have but £20 per month allowed me by the Trust, (my wife's brother-in-law, and my son,)" continued he; "and will so limited a sum supply me with the comforts and necessaries I stand in need of?"

The Editor saw his Lordship's perturbation, while he was speaking, and intreated him to hope for better days. "I have but one hope," said he, emphatically, "a better world! I shall some day die, my dear friend, of a broken heart." He then stated how retired he lived, scarcely having

any friend, but relatives, visiting him. As things were then situated, he could controul none of the domestic affairs of his household, and he often wanted a pair of gloves;* he had not a sheet of paper, or a pen, to write with; being obliged to ask Mr. Duncan, the butler, for such necessities. How heavily he must have felt his afflictions! How distressing to think, that the descendant of so ancient and illustrious a family should be so situated!

The Editor, in days of early youth, had seen the Earl of Warwick, as Lord Lieutenant of the County—the distinguished servant of his Sovereign, in the possession of every earthly comfort, and living generally in a style of sumptuous elegance and grandeur. It was impossible, therefore, that she should not have sympathized with him in his adversities, or endeavoured to prove herself a sincere and serviceable friend.

Timon of Athens, so ably delineated by the immortal Shakespeare, will, in the several vicissitudes he experienced, serve to illustrate the destiny of Lord Warwick; who declared at this period, to the Editor, in tracing these particulars of his situation, that he had scarcely a hope or friend left, but herself, to whom he could apply, excepting his brother's sister, and his beloved Sir Charles Greville, his second son. He was frequently dispossessed of the equipage suitable to his rank,

* Lord Warwick has often addressed the Editor on a leaf torn out of an old account book.

and was compelled to walk in the most unfrequented places for exercise, at such times, his horse being withheld by some execution! shunning generally the society of his happier days, lest his altered dress and general appearance should excite the pity of his friends.

Mr. Wilson, the manager of the European Museum, King-street, St. James's, at the earnest request of Lord Warwick, often lent him sums of money, in the most liberal and praise-worthy manner. Lord Warwick, being of a grateful disposition, appreciated Mr. Wilson's liberality, and honoured him with his confidential esteem.--- At the close of the fashionable season in 1815, Lord Warwick called one morning at the European Museum. He was extremely dejected, and said that he was going into the City upon important business, and not having the family carriage or horses at command, he should esteem it a most particular kindness, if Mr. Wilson would lend him a pound note, to pay coach-hire, finding himself unable to proceed thither on foot. Tears started into his Lordship's eyes, as he told the story of his woes. Mr. Wilson complied with his Lordship's request, with the difference of presenting him with two pounds instead of one. The same day Lord W. paid a visit to the Editor, full of Mr. Wilson's urbanity!

These facts are unanswerable, and confirm the opinion of the *World*, that his Lordship was a most oppressed character. Yet, at times, Lord

Warwick would be cheerful : and used frequently to quote one of Seneca's adages, *that a man, by quiet and tranquil habits, is often seen to outlive his executioner or persecutors.* He considered it a duty to preserve his life, for the sake of all to whom he was indebted, else, such were the injuries he had met with, and the miseries and privations he endured, that he declared, that a pistol placed to his head would be mercy in the fullest extent! These sentiments were often uppermost in his thoughts; they frequently recurred to him, and as they usually did, affected his mind with extreme dejection.

The Editor has often for hours tremblingly listened to his Lordship's troubles; and after his visits, suffered exceedingly from continual perturbation and anxiety, lest any unhappy calamity should occur, or melancholy event befall him:—but, No! the great benevolence of his own nature, pleaded for him at that season at the throne of his gracious Creator, whose kind and superintending protection alone supported Lord Warwick, under the hope of the final reward his fortitude and patience would meet with, in a happy hereafter. No man could be more truly possessed of the correct and sound principles of religion than his Lordship. His heart was the seat of religion; and his soul was from hence inspired with the purest and finest sentiments of humanity. He fed the hungry; he clothed the naked; and,

like the good Samaritan, poured the balm of consolation, when the advantages of wealth were at his command, into every one's bosom, that stood in need of consolation and worldly assistance. Safely escaped from the ill usage and conduct of his enemies, persecution is now no more.

Asunder's rent affliction's rod,
He rests securely with his God;
In peaceful mansions finds repose,
Reliev'd, at length, from earthly woes.

Had not Lord Warwick made over his Estates to persons who were a—d by ties of b—d, his lot would have been less dreadfully fettered and embarrassed; even strangers might have been found considerably and benevolently liberal, who would have endeavoured to extricate him from difficulties, which the goodness of his disposition alone had brought upon him. His Lordship judged of others by his own heart; and entrusted them accordingly, from the sincerity and frankness of his own intentions. He was neither suspicious nor narrow-minded; and consequently estimated mankind incautiously, believing their integrity was as correct as his own. To the great disgrace of his pretended sincere friends, they suffered persons to deceive him in the vilest manner; and t—y permitted him to be d—n from a h—me that he never ought to

have been dispossessed of; and which should not have been deprived of so excellent a master.

What reproaches must not the consciences of many men produce,---what reflection and regret, now that he exists no more! Can the advantages derived from most cruel and ungenerous proceedings compensate for the loss of that never-ending satisfaction, an approving spirit? Will the E---e of the persecuted Lord Warwick stay the upbraidings, and the remembrance of the extreme indignity and ill-usage with which he was pursued?---Alas! what earthly power can silence the bitterness of remorse, and its attendant corroding remonstrances! A tranquil soul is a jewel, which no worldly aggrandisement can compensate or redeem!---This is that enviable and invaluable treasure, which the philosophers of old so anxiously sought after!---the reward of all their self-denial and forbearance;---the result and harvest of all their studies!---Wisdom cannot exist without it, and contentment is the object and gift of every moral virtue. Happiness is too commonly misunderstood; and, like the philosopher's stone, never to be found in this life; but conscience is with us always, and proves our comfort, or our lasting source of accusation, reprehension, and dismay.

Excepting at very particular seasons of distress, the countenance of Lord Warwick used to beam with resignation and cheerfulness; it is

true, now and then the lines of sorrow and anguish would betray themselves, when his Lordship was in a very serious mood; but this did not frequently occur:—for always, as he said, keeping hope in view, and placing a firm and implicit confidence in the power and mercy of the Divine Being, he looked forward to the happy termination of his cares, while his most faithful friends were plunged into absolute despair, to see him, so cruelly treated and hopelessly situated.

The following circumstance is introduced as an instance of Lord Warwick's nobleness of mind, and the generosity of his disposition:—Having been exceedingly ill-used by a groom, in whom he had placed great confidence, with respect to his horses, he discharged him; and being in want of money, his Lordship determined to dispose of a favorite horse, to which the groom was extremely partial, and felt a desire to purchase for himself. Accordingly, he presented himself one morning before his Lordship, and with sentiments of proper respect, intreated his Lordship's forgiveness for his past offences. Lord Warwick remained silent; when the man, assuming courage, eloquently expressed his regard for the horse, and requested most humbly to be allowed to purchase it at his Lordship's price.

The petition of the man occasioned Lord Warwick to soften, materially, in his resentment;

and he said, "I will not sell you the horse; but call in half an hour."

The groom, with extreme disappointment, and almost broken-hearted, retired from his master's presence; and having called at the appointed time, was astonished by his Lordship saying, the moment he entered the room, "I will not sell you the horse, but I make you a present of him; and also of the new saddle;" just brought to the stable for his use.—The man was too gratefully overjoyed, to contain himself; such uncommon generosity from a master, to whom he had not been so honest and obedient, overpowered him; for he retired home, and cut his throat the same night. He had offended Lord W. at Newmarket races; and having been an old servant, he could not reconcile to his feelings the loss of his master's good opinion.

The horse in question the groom had been devoted to from his earliest age: yet so liberal a nobleman very frequently had no horse to ride on in his latter years, when age, with its attendant infirmities and weaknesses, rendered such a loss and deprivation more afflicting and distressing.

In 1808, Lord Warwick made up his mind to examine, with the assistance of a legal friend, into the true situation of his affairs. The estates, from the extent of encumbrances with which they had been saddled, had greatly involved themselves; but how, he said, to raise the

wind for a suit in equity, in order to recover them, was a most important consideration. His Lordship had no securities to offer; and what could be effected without indemnifying the parties that were disposed to assist him? One consultation succeeded another:—many persons promised great things; but refused assistance when called upon to fulfil their word.

It appeared to the Editor, that his Lordship was never likely to gain any legal redress; but his distresses penetrated her heart. She inquired what sum would be requisite for his first effort, to possess himself of legal assistance; being informed that a few hundreds would be wanting, she let his Lordship have *five hundred pounds*, in March, 1808; the produce of some useless trinkets, being incapable of serving him any other way. In the year following, to enable his Lordship to relieve his horse and wardrobe from an execution, she lent him *two hundred and forty pounds* in Bank Notes, deposited within the leaves of a book. The following letter was received from his Lordship, immediately after the receipt of the packet and its contents.

(COPY.)

“MADAM,

“Many thanks for the book, and its contents. It was not treated as the late Lord Sandwich did a Bible, which his mother gave him,

with strict injunctions to read it every day!—She had, at the beginning of every chapter, put a bank-note!—On his Lordship's return to England, he returned the Bible, with every bank-note, in perfect preservation. There is an old Latin adage, intimating, *that he that gives soon, gives twice*. All I can add is, that twenty *men* have promised twenty times, and done nothing; and that *zeal, address, and mind* have done more than all united together!—Common expressions are only fit for common occurrences. Therefore none need now be added, nor are they expected, I am sure.—The best way is to say, with the Asiatic,---‘Lo, I thank you!--What can I say more?’—I am sorry to add, that the fever of my daughter is a very catching and dangerous one, the scarlet fever. There are no bad symptoms, but a heavy disease, as Sir H. Halford says.

“ With every wish for your comfort, I am,

“ Madam,

“ Your's, faithfully,

“ W———.”

Before Lord Warwick left town for Christchurch Lodge, the Editor received several visits from him; when he seemed in most excellent spirits, and assured the Editor that all would be well and prosperous, since they had so warmly attached themselves to his fortune. Fearing he had inconvenienced the Editor, by the different

sums and jewels that she had advanced him, his Lordship offered his acceptance, previous to his leaving London. One bill, that the Editor drew in part upon his Lordship, was for £70, and with the fullest confidence that it would be punctually honoured; but when the bill became due, his Lordship was out of town, a circumstance that placed her in a most distressing situation. The parties concerned in it did not take the trouble of writing to his Lordship in the country, but immediately issued a writ against the Editor, who was surprised with being disturbed, three days after the note became due, in her bed-room, by two sheriff's officers. She was then much indisposed with a severe cold. The consequences of this measure nearly proved fatal; for the month, (November) was exceedingly raw and cold, and the change of bed and room greatly added to the Editor's illners, who immediately addressed Lord Warwick, from the lock-up house of Messrs. Bish and Butler, of Stanhope-street, Clare-market, and on the third day an answer was received from his Lordship, as follows ;---

(COPY.)

" DEAR MADAM,

*Stubborn Lodge,
Christchurch.*

" I am almost distracted through the contents of your letter.---What is to be done in this (to me) dreadful affair!---How to procure you

bail, I know not:---a most cruel disappointment has prevented my paying the acceptance. Can the time be lengthened?---I will execute any instrument that will procure your emancipation from this cruel and distressing confinement, so unsuitable to your sex and situation in life!---I am without a shilling:---I will write to some friends that I have left in town, on your behalf. God preserve you, and grant you fortitude to surmount such exceeding trials. What do I not owe to your friendship?---You know not my unhappiness. ---To have plunged you into such misery, is more than I can support!---I will do all that I can, and am bound to do.

“ Your’s, faithfully,

“ W——.”

The Earl was not inactive, and undoubtedly intended every thing just and honourable; but the friends on whom he depended were insincere, and never came forward to the Editor’s relief; who, after a confinement of several days, returned to her residence, extremely ill, and was afterwards confined to her bed several weeks. She was attended by Mr. E——, of Grosvenor-street, Mr. B——, of Duke-street, and Sir H. Halford.

Lord Warwick during the time of her illness remained in the country, writing continually, to express his deep affliction at his inability to be of

any service. On his arrival in town, he immediately waited upon the Editor, and condoled with her on the misfortunes, distress, and trials to which she was exposed on his Lordship's account. He solemnly pledged himself to the Editor, to return ten-fold all she had assisted him with, and to settle a handsome income upon herself and her daughter, the moment it was in his power; and undoubtedly, these promises he intended to fulfil, had not death deprived him of the opportunity.

Lord Warwick seemed at this epoch of his life, deeply to feel his humiliation; and a great and ardent activity animated his conduct. He said that he was no longer amused by, nor would he be the victim of, the deceptions of pretended friends. Like a man roused from a heavy and oppressive slumber, to a sense of his own consequence in life, he had resolution to examine his affairs; and for this purpose he collected the different papers relative to his estates, and the *Trust*; and, jointly with the Editor, perused them day after day, making memorandums as to their tendency. The whole tenor of his conduct on this occasion, convinced her that he had two grand objects in view, which he was most anxious to accomplish; the first of which was, the liquidation of his *just debts*: the next, equally laudable, to make a better provision for his younger children. Lord Warwick and the Editor, upon an attentive perusal and close examination of these

papers, were satisfied, that the proper time had now presented itself, when his Lordship was fully authorized to apply to the Court of Chancery for redress; but the difficulty of finding a solicitor, on whose integrity he might depend, greatly perplexed his Lordship. He was well aware that the generality of the world were prejudiced against him, and that his known difficulties and indigent situation, would prove a bar to his wishes.

About that period, the conduct of a Mr. B—— in detaining a picture that Lord Warwick had sent to his house to be sold, was highly to be condemned. This picture was the Editor's property, and had been lent to his Lordship for the purpose of raising a necessary loan; and the detention of it had greatly distressed and irritated him, as Mr. Troward had assured his Lordship that nothing could be accomplished to his satisfaction, unless certain sums were advanced to enable him, or any other solicitor, to commence proceedings in the Court of Chancery.

The Editor, on receiving this intelligence from his Lordship, sent a gentleman, whose mother had been a Willmot, who was nearly related to the Baronet of that name in Derbyshire; a gentleman, who, although he had not been much favoured by fortune, yet was one whom she considered as a most trust-worthy solicitor, possessing a clear knowledge of Chancery business,

and having had practice sufficient to render his legal experience of infinite service to his Lordship. To this gentleman, the Editor communicated, with truth and candour, the real situation of his Lordship's affairs; and frankly told him, that his noble client had neither money nor ministerial influence to reward his labours, provided he undertook the management of Lord Warwick's legal concerns, unless a sum could be raised by themselves, for his Lordship's relief. Mr. P—— generously said he would wait on his Lordship; and if there was a prospect of assisting him, he would, in spite of all the impediments that presented themselves, advocate his cause in the Court of Chancery.

The Editor, delighted with Mr. P——'s liberality, and her success, immediately gave him a letter of introduction to Lord Warwick, who from that moment entrusted him most confidentially, and anticipated thenceforward the most successful termination of his troubles.

Lord Warwick now went more-frequently into society, and appeared to be in the best spirits imaginable. Hope, that had for a long period been banished from his prospects, once more presented herself, arrayed in the most inviting and delightful robes of tranquillity and joy. Alas! why were her smiles so fallacious; why so imposing in her mien!—But such is the fate of man: and the mind of poor Lord Warwick proved her

hourly dominion, which lulled him most fatally into a security, that at length terminated nearly in despair.

The moment Mr. P—— commenced proceedings, all past hardships were forgotten, and new and pleasing, although distant, prospects presented themselves. His Lordship joyfully anticipated the moment of his return to Warwick.

The Castle, one of the noblest structures in England; Lord Warwick idolized; and his imagination painted its park and plantations with increased beauties, aided by the growth of the trees and shrubs planted by his own hand. Conversing one day on this subject with the Editor, he assured her, that he could have resided always at the Castle, without once wishing to visit the Metropolis, had not certain members of his family disliked its retirement. “If ever Providence permits my being again master of that charming place,” continued his Lordship, “I will never visit London more, but spend my latter days to my soul’s liking, in the abode of my preference and choice.

After Mr. P—— proceeded in Lord Warwick’s affairs, he assured the Editor that he hoped to see Lord Warwick, in one year more, in the just possession of his *rights*. He declared that he never had examined so nefarious a case; and that his Lordship’s *r—ts* were *sp—t* in the most improvident and unjustifiable manner. If better

regulated, they would have provided a fund in Lord Warwick's favor, who in the hurry and distress of his mind, when so many executions were in the Castle, literally signed a ———, giving his inheritance into the control of *****, whose actions have since testified no sentiments whatever, favorable to the alleviation of his Lordship's misfortunes.

Lord Warwick said, that one grand excuse for his conduct was his own generosity; but he defied them to prove that the interests of his family had ever been forgotten by himself. The purchasing of new estates, and the increasing of his rent-roll, had originally brought on most of his troubles. The estates to which he succeeded, at his noble father's decease, did not produce above *nineteen thousand pounds*, per annum; and as he *paid off fifty thousand pounds of his father's debts*, this circumstance compelled him, in the first instance, to mortgage his estates.

Yet the man who has been, by the unnaturally disposed, calumniated, and unjustly styled an enemy to his noble family's interests, at his decease had a rent-roll of nearly £25,000 per annum; and with what his rich coal mines ought to produce, estates that were then capable of yielding £35,000; and charged but with two annuities, the mortgages all cleared, and without incumbrance. This statement Mr. P——, his Lordship's solicitor, cannot contradict.

Nothing very material happened until the year 1812, excepting some troubles of a very peculiar nature, into which the Editor brought herself, to assist his Lordship's legal proceedings.

At the close of that year, proposals were made to his Lordship, with respect to the earth upon the estate of Warwick, which, mixed with tallow some years previous to this history, had been manufactured into an excellent soap. His Lordship asked the Editor to negotiate the affair. To oblige his Lordship, as well as to serve him, she consented. (At the conclusion of these Memoirs, are letters illustrating this subject.)

The negociation, relative to the soap earth, daily engaged the Editor's attention, who, without the advice or aid of legal assistance, concluded the agreement, by which it was covenanted, that £15 per ton, should be paid Lord Warwick by Sir G. J——, and his agents, for the earth. The agreement, as is usual, was signed on both sides.

The final arrangement of this difficult affair took place in the year 1812; and it would have turned out to great advantage to each party, had Sir G. J—— made it convenient to proceed in his intended manufacture. Although tied down in a penalty of £10,000 should he not perform the contract; Lord Warwick, offended at some delays in the receipts of large sums of money, and compelled by the Baronet to depart from his agree-

ment, liberally passed over the penalty, but not without being out of temper and disappointed. On the other hand Sir G. J—— had accepted bills to the amount of about two hundred and fifty pounds for the soap earth that his Lordship had in a warehouse in London, and which sum was with difficulty paid. Sir G. J—— was ultimately a loser, having been prevented, by pecuniary disappointments, from making the soap as he had intended.

Lord Warwick always considered that some political characters were at the back of Sir George's delays and procrastinations; but could not for a single moment suspect that his intimate friend, the M——r was his adviser, or at all interested in the affair. It was true the Editor was in possession of some important secrets, which, from her own knowledge, she was convinced were facts; although it might subject her to many inconveniences to communicate them.

During the Session of Parliament, the Earl of Warwick's soap business amused her; but it exceedingly surprised her, how Mr. V.'s old school-fellow and confidant, could be at all interested in such business as soap-making!

The Editor, however, had some epistolary correspondence with Mr. V. as to a servant of the D—— of C——, connected with matters which she had communicated to the Earl of Warwick; and considers it induced his Lordship to draw some

decided conclusions, after he had waited on Lord S——, which he did, greatly desirous to obtain the ear of the Prince Regent for the Editor.

No man was more loyally devoted to his King and country than the Earl of Warwick. Acting always as a noble and independent Constitutionalist, the prosperity and safety of the State were his hourly prayer. Few Noblemen continued so stedfastly on one side of the question; and fewer, perhaps, as a Lord Lieutenant of a County, ever evinced such a dislike to solicit favors of Ministers, or persons in place. Lord Warwick's soul was such as to take great pleasure in conferring a favor, but he detested the idea of soliciting one.

When the Corn Bill was in agitation, the inhabitants of Birmingham were not banished from the reasonable recollection of his Lordship, nor the hardships endured by the majority of the people of these realms from a decline of trade. The Corn Bill, he said, might do no harm, but it was likely to be of little benefit to the country; and it was a measure, ill-considered; and ill-digested.

During that troublesome and discontented season, he did the Editor the honor to ask her opinion; and one afternoon, as he returned from the House, sent her a note to say, that he had

voted as she had wished, thinking it was right; and not seeing how it possibly *could be wrong*.

"I am an old man," said his Lordship, (the next morning calling on her); "and I am bound to act justly towards my fellow-men. The hardships endured by the inferior orders of society, should be considered by all whom Providence has elevated above them in this life. Bread is the staff of our existence; its price should be regulated by the seasons only."

His Lordship also considered the commercial interests of the land should be a grand consideration at the helm of the state; and the scales of justice should be upon a balance, as to the interests of trade and landed property. His Lordship ever meant most patriotically;---few men were perceived to have such sound integrity, in or out of office, equally. The welfare of the crown and state he anxiously wished and hoped for; and studied, in the performance of his public duty, to support right!---All persons connected with the Lieutenancy of the County of Warwick had immediate access to his presence. No county affair could reproach his Lordship's diligence. An early riser, he had no political business to execute in hurry and confusion, but gave to every subject its requisite attention. He was a most ready writer; his pen obeyed his thoughts, which were never indolently inactive; but far otherwise, vigorous, energetic, and decisive.

His Lordship this year received from the Editor's hands £1500, paid him in bank notes, which enabled him to proceed vigorously in the suits in which he was engaged. He was all gratitude to the Editor, who also lent him some fine pictures by the old masters, worth several hundred pounds. His Lordship's confidence in his solicitor's vigilance and activity was unbounded, and he promised to settle £200 per annum on the Editor, and to make her a handsome present, and likewise to her daughter, as well as repay the different sums that he had borrowed of her, and what she had raised by the sale of the pictures.

The following day his Lordship called to inform her that his affairs had taken a most happy turn; and the next day sent her the following letter, without date.

(COPY.)

"I have only time to say, that I trust the fair prospects of the harvest will not be blasted by some unexpected blight. Every thing appears to have a most favorable opening---now God grant it may ultimately succeed! It is strange that you should have met with such a man as Mr. W——, there are such a number of a contrary description, swarming every where. I cannot but wonder what can be the views of the villains, who advise my Trust; they certainly

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must think I cannot obtain the Loan. How will they feel when they discover their mistake! I once pitied them; but now I consider them as fit objects for correction, and as a terror to wicked doers. You see where my paper is extracted from—a *book!* furnished me the means of addressing you. I am very glad to think Lavinia continues to deserve your kind affections and regard; she has a good head and a good heart; and you will, I am sure, give her credit for the inexperience which can alone occur from a shade of difference between you. I most sincerely wish her all future happiness; and it may have been a blessing, that she was not sooner taken from your maternal wing:—make my sincere compliments (not formally) to her. I have seen, for two days, Colonel Greville here:—he has carried one of my daughters to Warwickshire, to accompany Lady Clonmell to town, who will soon make me, again, a grandfather.

“ I remain,

“ Dear Mrs. S——,

“ Your's truly,

“ W——.”

At the close of that year, his Lordship wrote again several times from Weymouth, and intreated the Editor would, if possible, remit him £80. His Lordship had previously sent up two promissory notes in her favor; one of which was re-

turned, as being of no service, the day after the letter arrived, applying for the £80 to be discounted, which his Lordship had enclosed a month before, (an acceptance of the Rev. Dr. Lock's,) to the Editor, saying she might use it for herself. An execution being in his house soon after, that greatly annoyed his family, Lord W. was very much distressed, and wrote, he should be *all sense* of the kindness, if the Editor could assist him at so critical a moment. His Lordship's anxieties were soon relieved by her; and the sums required were transmitted to him at Weymouth, which made him exceedingly happy.

This was a most anxious period to the Editor, who had succeeded in raising a loan of £26,000, for his Lordship, to redeem his estates from the control of the Trust. Though this was an unusual task for a lady, yet every preliminary was arranged, and his Lordship requested to come up to town, which he did, in November, on purpose to shew himself at the insurance-offices, and finally, to consult the trust-solicitor; but the statement given of his health, not satisfying the body of gentlemen who had agreed to furnish the money, the whole business fell to the ground.

To express Lord Warwick's vexation and concern, on this occasion, is totally out of the Editor's power. Language can but indifferently describe his Lordship's disappointment and distress. He discovered that the ***** agencies

were perpetually at work, to injure his credit, and counteract his wishes. His Lordship considered that he should never be able to raise the requisite £26,000, while references were made to the s——rs of the *****. But the case has appeared otherwise to the Editor, who has since ascertained, that his Lordship, at that season, had no real security to offer; the deed of trust, then in existence, having stipulated, that Lord Warwick, after the mortgages on his estates were paid off, should be put in possession of the Castle, and the extra rents, by repaying the trust (his brother-in-law and his eldest son,) the sum of £26,000, £23,000 of which these gentlemen had raised to extricate his Lordship's effects in the Castle from certain executions.

The Castle-furniture, great part of which had been bought by the late Lord Warwick, after his father's decease, and, though estimated at a low valuation, was worth, at least, three times the sum of £23,000, if brought to the hammer, was kept possession of by the Trust, so that his Lordship, according to the deed of trust, could derive no emolument himself, or participate any with his creditors from the circumstance.

At the close of the year 1814, his Lordship was full of expectation; his solicitor promised him an early return to his Castle, and the satisfaction and pleasure these tidings afforded him, rendered him completely happy. He hailed the

year 1815, anticipating the joyful termination of his sorrows, and never appeared in better spirits. His brow now was seldom clouded, as a brighter prospect of more prosperous times dawned before him.

The bravery of his favourite son was also a source of parental exultation; and no theme was so agreeable to him as a recapitulation of his gallant son's heroic exploits in Spain. His Lordship often declared to the Editor, that Charles was a child that had never caused him a moment's sorrow or pain. "I can depend on his dutiful regard," said his Lordship; "for his disposition and mind are all that I can wish."

About May, 1815, Lord W—— was advised to visit Warwick, and the Editor has since learned by whom, (Mr. Troward.) His soul seemed bent upon the measure; but money was requisite to enable him to effect his wishes. Mr. P——, Lord Warwick's solicitor, informed the editor, that he was endeavouring to assist his Lordship, as he was satisfied, that, in a very few months, Lord Warwick would have his Chancery-suit terminated in his favour. This declaration induced the Editor to try again to serve his Lordship, placing a confidence in what Mr. P—— declared; she gave Lord Warwick £80, and borrowed of Mr. Veal, an eminent solicitor, of Great Abingdon-street, £20 more for him, although he was a stranger to Lord Warwick,

which his Lordship promised to repay in a fortnight, calling himself, by the Editor's desire, on Mr. Veal, for the above-mentioned sum.

No person could leave London in better spirits than his Lordship, who did not tell his f——y where he was going; fearing, as he said, from her Ladyship's exceeding partiality for her son, Lord *****, (one of the Trust,) that his intentions would be frustrated. The third day of his Lordship's departure from town, the Editor received the following Letter:

“ DEAR MADAM, *Head Quarters!*

Warwick Castle, May 28th, 1815.

“ Here I am; and all goes on well in every respect. The place is improved beyond imagination; and nothing can be compared with it. I augur every good from this bold step I have taken. It must bring things to an issue. I have only time to give you this information.

Your's truly,

W——.”

“ P. S. My trusty servant wept for joy to see me. In general, I have not an enemy. My opponents would as soon see the devil here; and some, with long faces, will be miserable! I wish I could see them. I know no one will re-

joice more than you and L. I have only time to add these few lines.

“Your’s truly.”

His Lordship continued writing by every post, and gave the Editor every reason to hope, that this visit to the Castle would prove of the first importance, as the Earl had lately said, that there was a sum in the Trust’s hands to pay the £26,000.

Little did the Editor suppose, that *persons in power* would cause the Castle doors to be closed against him. From their taking this step, Lord Warwick, the *Rightful Owner*, was compelled to eat his dinner in the Green-house of the Castle gardens!!

After a week’s absence, Lord W. returned to town, and astonished the Editor by declaring that he had been *locked out of his own Castle*.

It was natural he should express his indignation, after having been so cruelly treated by those whose duty it was to conduct themselves in a very different manner towards him. “Riding out,” said his Lordship, “one morning, to view the alterations in my park, I was amazed, on my return to the Castle, to find the hall-door locked against me; and was obliged, in consequence, to take my dinner in a damp green-house; nor was I again permitted to enter the Castle, even for my pocket-book and papers, which I had left within.”

His Lordship dwelt upon this matter, until he burst into a violent flood of tears; saying, he feared he had few that wished him well, in London.

The statement, put in the Paper, relative to this circumstance, was greatly exaggerated; for no execution had entered the Castle. How could any person enter, when Mr. Wilmot, his Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Warwick, the Editor's relative, was the only person allowed to approach Lord Warwick during his short stay in the noble edifice of his ancestors. His Lordship then considered he had seen the Castle for the last time.

As he expatiated on the ungenerous and indignant treatment he had experienced, he walked in the most agonized manner up and down the Editor's drawing-room; who advised him immediately to write to his son, Lord B****, and to endeavour to effect a reconciliation between them.

Lord Warwick listened, with much complacency, to the proposal, as he said, to oblige the Editor; knowing how very anxious she was for their happiness. At length he agreed, *she* might write to Lord B****, to request his Lordship to call upon her, in Seymour-place; and if he was inclined to act as a son ought to act, he would meet him with the affection of a father. The Editor accordingly addressed Lord B****,

and the day after, received the following letter from his Lordship's father; dated

Green Street, Monday.

"DEAR MRS. SERRES,

"You had better make no proposal to Lord B****, yet, on the other hand, unless impelled by **** obstinacy, I have no wish to inform the world of the interestedness of *** ***** conduct. I sincerely lament that their treatment of myself should have exposed the affairs of the family. Thus, should they be inclined to settle the differences existing between us by arbitration, I will agree to the measure; otherwise, I have no proposal to make, no terms to listen to, but a complete restoration of my rights, so long and most unprecedentedly withheld. Be firm when you meet—take the moth out of Lord B——'s eyes—assist him to view the light and shade of the subject. Alas! would the worthy Lord Selsey have proved so persecuting an enemy as Lord O—— has done? But I have discovered too late, that persons of wisdom should never intrust relatives with power. My experience has been very dearly purchased. I hope I shall be able to wait on you to-morrow.—Not forgetting L.,

"I am, truly, your's."

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Having by letter several times intreated to see Lord B****, he waited on the Editor, and their conference lasted a considerable time. The Editor, with the most affectionate solicitude, and all the earnestness she was mistress of, intreated Lord B**** to consider matters, and reflect. His Lordship listened with polite attention, until the Editor took the liberty of opening the eyes of his Lordship, to the opinion which the world in general entertained of his behaviour to his noble father.

The Editor, with truth, declared the humiliations his venerable father was hourly subject to; and most forcibly besought his Lordship to terminate the unhappy difference existing between them, in an amicable manner.

Lord B**** said, that the welfare of the family compelled him to act as he had done; that he was determined never to give up the Trust, nor to pay such a set of infamous creditors, as he considered most of the characters, who had a claim on the Earl of Warwick, to be. The Editor informed his Lordship, if two honorable Noblemen and two honorable Solicitors were chosen on each side, as arbitrators, to investigate the state and truth of matters, according to the anxious desire of his noble Father, it would be, in every view of the subject, greatly preferable to the expences incurred and accruing by a litigious and expensive suit in Chancery;

and which ultimately would devour the property of the creditors;—and as the mortgages on the estates were paid off, it was extremely hard that his Father should not be allowed a portion of the *extra Rents* for his own use.

Lord B—— acknowledged that the estates were nearly relieved; and that after insuring the £26,000 by the Trust, which they had power to do, what remained, his Father should have, without applying to chancery. In security for the sum here alluded to, the *Trust* held the Castle furniture, keeping possession of it till the period of Lord Warwick's decease.

The Editor, after using every argument in behalf of the injured Nobleman whose cause she was authorized to plead, to a son, whom his Lordship had been at variance with for years, perceived at last that it was to no effect; and that Lord B—— was resolutely bent to maintain and persevere in his own opinions. His Lordship gave the Editor to understand, that he was determined to spend his last shilling, before he would suffer the estates ever to revert to his Father's management:—that he had nothing to settle by arbitration; the deeds spoke for themselves; and he was resolved to abide by them. On the other hand, his Lordship expressed his regret, that such unhappy differences should have prevailed, &c. &c.

The Editor informed his Lordship that his no-

ble father was at that period without a guinea, and she considered that it would be a most essential benefit to Lord W—— if he would lend him five hundred pounds, until an addition was made to Lord Warwick's income. His Lordship said that he would not lend a shilling; and asked, "What does Lord W—— want with money?— he has every thing found that he wants."

The Editor could nothelp saying to Lord B****, that his father's deprivations were a disgrace to the family. He replied, "What can I do?—if I meet my father's wishes, what will become of my mother? she will be again reduced to beggary." The Editor proposed that as the estates were relieved from their late incumbrance, supposing the sum allowed to Lady Warwick for the expences of the household should be continued to her, and the surplus of the rents should be applied to the liquidation of his past debts, and leave to Lord Warwick a yearly sum according to his rights, as being the owner of such a property. His Lordship would listen to none of his father's proposals, and departed.—Lord Warwick called on the Editor the same evening, and being made acquainted with all that had passed at the meeting, and the sentiments of Lord B****, he seemed extremely indignant; not any ways irritated by passion, but cool, collected, and dignified in his demeanor. The Editor cannot venture to repeat the observations that his Lordship then made, and

conversation that he entered into, excepting that he said; "Perhaps it is expected that I shall place a pistol to my head, and so finish my unprecedented sufferings; but, thank my God, I am better inclined, and determined to preserve my life with the utmost care, that I may live to see myself and my creditors righted." Amongst his letters will be seen his Lordship's sentiments as to his **** conduct. Lord Warwick said, "There is yet some extraordinary cause to be discovered. Others untitled," proceeded his Lordship, "are devouring my property, the inheritance of my ancestors; and all the while, I am to be *a mere pauper, a beggar!* subjugated to the control of those who are indebted to myself for their rank and consequence in life. Alas! why did I survive the loss of my first son, my darling boy! whose disposition was the proudest reflection of my life!"

When Lord W——— concluded this visit, he thanked the Editor for her firm and steady attachment to his interests, assuring her, he could never too gratefully return this regard. It was a truly affecting sight, to behold the laudable spirit of his Lordship during the whole of his conversation with the Editor that evening. She could easily perceive how grievously Lord Warwick was affected by the conduct of Lord B****, who, he solemnly declared, should never be restored to his parental regard and confidence, until he was rein-

stated in his rights, and Lord **** became sensible of his errors. His Lordship determined to proceed most vigorously in his chancery suit from that period, and had he not found the greatest difficulty in raising the money necessary to defray the expenses of his proceedings, his solicitor assured him he would have been in possession of his rights long before the year 1815.

His Lordship greatly broke in health and spirits after the disappointment his most earnest wishes had thus experienced. Every avenue to redress seemed completely obstructed, and closed against him. Time journied on with rapid strides, yet produced nothing favourable to his views. One execution after another pressed heavily upon his comforts; some taking his horses, and thereby precluding that species of exercise that was necessary for the preservation of his health: and indeed, the moment that he had raised a small sum of money, suborned agents, acting as spies, as he has often declared, on his actions, gave information to the creditors holding judgments. Thus, very frequently, when he had obtained fifty or a hundred pounds, to proceed in his suit, such means have been snatched from his control by a sheriff's officer, employed to take advantage of the strength of his purse.

The excellence of Lord W———'s disposition placed him off his guard frequently as to the entreaties of his mercenary enemies; being of too

open a disposition, he often entrusted persons unworthy of such confidence, with his most sacred secrets; and he lived to see his error in that respect; and told the Editor, that the past sorrows of his life had been brought on himself, by his having entertained too good opinion of mankind, who, at the close of his days, he discovered, had generally their price.

The secret grief that preyed upon his Lordship's spirits, immediately after Lord B—— had visited the Editor, every body acquainted with him could easily perceive:—it was visible to all, except to those who ought to have considered his advanced years, and regulated their conduct accordingly. It was easily to be conceived, with such a burthen of anxiety pressing on his Lordship's mind, that his health would hourly decline, at the advanced age of seventy-one. The human frame could not be expected to support such a weight of mingled wretchedness,

Lord W—— did not, during the last years of his life, lament his own humiliations only, his ill-usage and distresses; but his generous and honourable heart bled for the cares of his friend and his creditors. He prayed continually to that gracious Providence that regulates all terrestrial events, that he might live to see his name relieved from reprobation and ignominy, by the liquidation of all his just debts. The desire was a most laudable one. Next to these duties of

honour and honesty, his Lordship's younger children, and their fortunes, became most anxious subjects of solicitude. The slender provision settled on these dear and amiable objects of his parental affection, excited great and unceasing regret; and added exceedingly to the trials of his Lordship, who often feelingly expressed his sentiments on that subject; and ever deplored that he had so incautiously given out of his own control the management of his affairs. His Lordship frequently mentioned this as a great and heavy anxiety upon his mind; and dwelt upon it with an energy of eloquence peculiarly his own, while at the close of such conversations, he has been seen to shed tears that flowed in abundance down his venerable cheeks.

The Editor did his Lordship several acts of service in 1815, previous to his departure from town. But the blow which he had received, by his having been locked out of his own Castle, struck heavily at his repose. His Lordship would say, "*I shall never forget the insult and cruelty of that measure; and when I reflect by whom this infamous measure was suggested, I become almost distracted, and feel inclined to bestow the most painful m——ns.* Talking once over this most atrocious and unprecedented action, with the Editor and another friend, in an excessive state of agitation, he paced up and down the apartment, with his hand to his forehead, saying

nothing for a few minutes; when, recovering himself, he said:---“ But I have one affectionate son, whose behaviour has never offended me. Would to heaven it had pleased Providence that he stood next, as my future representative!” Sir Charles Greville was the brave and gallant character, that independently of his dutiful attention, endeared himself to his illustrious father. Lord W—— often, with exultation, observed, that their persons and disposition were not dissimilar.

His Lordship's suit was still delayed: it was a matter of infinite concern; but having, as he said, the highest confidence in his solicitor, he felt satisfied, that Mr. P—— did all a honorable legal friend could do.

In October, 1815, being at Weymouth, his Lordship intreated the Editor to assist him once more, and that it would be the last time he should have occasion to borrow. He assured the Editor that what she had done to serve him, should be immediately provided for; and a security be executed in her favour, on the Trust debt, which his Lordship had upon oath stated in Chancery, with Mr. Vancouver, to be the enormous sum of £79,000.

The Editor had the statement from his Lordship, for perusal; and it appeared far in favour of his side of the question.

This affair stands recorded in the Court of

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Chancery, and it may be ascertained by any gentleman of the law, for the benefit of his Lordship's creditors. Mr. Parker, late of Grey's Inn, his Lordship's confidential solicitor, who conducted the whole of the late Lord Warwick's legal affairs, has fully satisfied the Editor as to the correctness of this statement.

His Lordship said, that the contents of his magnificent Castle, were worth at least four times the sum the *Trust* held them in possession for; and that if he died, the creditors had a claim there. In November, the Editor was assured, that in the following spring, his Lordship would certainly be in possession of his extra rents. On these grounds, she ventured to place her name to an acceptance, to serve him, and referred the parties to his Lordship at Weymouth.

His Lordship was often, during that season, at the Royal Lodge; and the Editor can with truth assure the public, that his Lordship considered the late Princess Charlotte of Wales as the most sensible, benevolent, and accomplished of human beings:---“All must love her who approach her august presence,” said Lord W——; “but much as I wish to express my opinion of her attraction, my pen is unable to do justice to her excellent qualifications. I forget all my cares, while in her society:---her smiles and manners are so fascinating; and her affability

and candour exceed those of all other females. Happy will the future state of England be under such a woman's regulations !”

At the close of the year 1815, his Lordship caught a violent cold, and returned to London early in January, 1816, for medical assistance. The Editor, at that period, was confined to her bed by a dangerous illness ; and with heart-felt sorrow she learned, that the situation of his Lordship was the same. Daily, on her pillow, has she endeavoured to write letters of condolence and regard. His Lordship also sent daily to inquire after her health ; and many days, with a trembling hand, expressed his grief to her daughter. With the most friendly solicitude all his Lordship's letters were written, while he was at that period, himself more seriously ill than he wished the Editor to suppose, knowing her regard, and that the situation in which she was placed, from her repeated exertions and endeavours to relieve the hardships of his lot, would, by adding to mental care, retard her recovery.

Thus, every thing that was kind and attentive, the letters of Lord Warwick expressed ; but some of them being upon the private affairs of his Lordship, are not given in this work ; but, with some hundreds, remain in the Editor's possession.

His Lordship promised the Editor to let her have some hundreds in the early part of the

year 1816; but was from week to week disappointed, writing almost daily to express his regrets. Lord W. meant all he promised, most religiously; but depending upon persons whose *interest* it was to deceive and amuse him, he could not *raise a shilling*; although his *extra rents were what he could demand*, and he could give security on the *Trust debt* due to himself.

The Editor having waited from one year to another, relying most implicitly on the assurances of his Lordship, that he must obtain his Chancery suit, became exceedingly oppressed by the acceptances that his Lordship had executed in her favor, not one of which was honoured at the period of his Lordship's decease, which took place, most unexpectedly, on the 2d of May, 1816. Lord Warwick, for the last month of his life, was seemingly without a shilling, at times. For, the Editor, from a law proceeding, being placed in a most cruel and awkward situation for a lady, (having been arrested,) addressed his Lordship, in as delicate and gentle a manner as she could on the occasion; he replied to her, in an answer full of the most affectionate *regret*, that he had *not one pound at command*; but would, the moment it was in his power, most sacredly assist her, and end all her troubles.

He then was in no way amicable with some members of his family, and took delight in seeing his friends as usual. He was at different periods

very weak, and complained of great oppression on his chest. In one of his letters he said, that he had suffered greatly from having taken a wrong medicine; and this he also told Dallas, a creditable mechanic, whom he employed, as a yearly agent, who called usually on his Lordship three times a week, to receive his orders. This person saw his Lordship *struggling with every kind of pecuniary distress*.

One morning his Lordship wanted to write, and could not, because he had not a scrap of paper; but recollecting a book of MSS. placed on the sofa, he tore a leaf from it, and apologized to a friend for addressing him on it. Another morning, knowing how the poor mechanic suffered, "Dallas," said his Lordship, "I am truly grieved that I am unable to pay you;—for this is all I have in my pocket: take it, it is better in your purse than in mine. Money is of no use to me, while my poor creditors suffer." Saying this, he thrust four and sixpence, (his eyes glistening with tears,) into the agent's hand, who said, "No, my Lord, I cannot take it,—indeed I cannot!—Let us hope, my Lord, for better times.—His Lordship would not take the silver back, but assured Dallas, one way or other, his spirits failed him greatly." The mechanic, an honest, worthy, grateful creature, loved his Lordship, and wept as he made this statement to the Editor.

Alas! the illustrious Earl of Warwick had none

of the comforts that his exalted birth and noble estates entitled him to expect. He usually sat in a small half-cleaned room on mornings, to receive his visitors. The other room of the mansion he could ask no body into, excepting characters intimate with ****. *He has often declared*, and expressed his indignation, at the inferior tea given out for his breakfast; and observed, that the articles of grocery should be good of their kind and excellent, as the monthly sums received by Lady W. for the household expences were such as afforded ready money for every article consumed in his family. "I cannot conceive the reason," said his Lordship, one day, "no fat beef comes to my table; a purse must be making somewhere." At other times, he told the Editor, and some friends, he could not get a coat, or a pair of gloves, and that his linen was horridly coarse.

The Editor presented his Lordship with some cambric, and Lord W———, declared that it was a most acceptable present at that period, as he had no wardrobe, on account of an execution, except what was on his back.

Yet few noblemen could appear neater, or look more gentlemanly: cleanliness was one of his Lordship's charms, and his lively and agreeable manners endeared him to all who were acquainted with the excellencies of his heart. Nothing could speak more eloquently on that head, than the aged, blind, and lame pensioners whom

he weekly relieved, while a guinea was in his pocket. His very errors were the result of his virtues. The feelings of humanity that guided his actions led him into innumerable troubles. His Lordship wished to assist every one labouring under the pressure of mortal calamity. Thus, in his prosperous days, he involved himself, and in his last years, a conscientious consolation poured its comforting balm into his almost broken heart, that supported him to the last moments of his existence. "If I am deserted and deceived by men," said his Lordship, "I hope I am not forsaken by my God."

In fact, few noblemen possessed a more noble soul or comprehensive talent; and had his Lordship always had a will of his own, and honourable characters to deal with, the evening of his days would have been happy.—An excellent poet and painter, a good accountant; a finished scholar, and intimately acquainted with the different branches of chemistry:—should a man so qualified, and possessed originally of such a large property, have been deserted by *justice*! and from the dominion of *wrong*, been subjected to hardships and degradations few have submitted to!!

Reader, pause a while, ere you unite in sentiment with the *interested few* who have driven the venerable nobleman (whose memoirs I have traced from facts) to the grave! There he sleeps! providentially removed from oppressive ills; and ele-

vated to the favour of his Creator, partakes of a blessed eternity, of everlasting bliss and felicity, The Earl of Warwick departed this life suddenly, early on the morning of the 2d of May, 1816, aged 71.

HIS MEMORY WILL BE VENERATED BY THE
UNFORTUNATE;

HIS MISFORTUNES IMPRESSED UPON THE RECOLLEC-
TIONS OF F*****!

HIS VIRTUES WILL BE AN EXAMPLE TO
POSTERITY!

HIS TALENTS AND ACQUIREMENTS EMULATING TO
THE LATEST PERIOD OF TIME!

AS A SUBJECT, HIS CONDUCT WAS WORTHY OF THE
IMITATION OF THE GREAT.

HIS BEHAVIOUR THROUGH LIFE, AS A SON, HUSBAND,
AND FATHER, A LESSON TO ALL.

THE TEARS OF HIS NATIVE COUNTY HAVE WATERED
HIS TOMB, WHILE THE RECORDS OF BENEVO-
LENCE HAVE GUIDED TO HIS GOD,
IN A BETTER WORLD!

LET THERE TO RECEIVE THE GREAT REWARD:—
THE PROMISED JOYS OF
LIFE ETERNAL!

O. S.

WARWICK CASTLE;

A POEM.

BY

Mrs. WILMOT SERRES.

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WARWICK CASTLE;

A POEM.

HIGH, on a Rock, thy lofty turrets rise!
With cloud-cap'd majesty approach the Skies!
As, proud with Age, thy ivy'd walls proclaim
The mighty prowess of a CÆSAR's fame!
The earliest progress of old English power,
When Plenty's blessings mark'd each joyful hour!
When Heaven-born Independence rose to sight,
And cast around its Soul-inspiring light!
When barbarous customs to the Mind gave way,
And Arts and Science, in their infant sway,
Genius hail'd! emerging from the School
Of Ignorance, Oppression's fatal rule!
Times immortal!—when old England rose,
The glorious Conqueror of its neighbouring foes;

When British courage snapt the galling chain
 Of Danish pride and arrogance in twain !
 When GUY, the Champion of his Country, great,
 Restor'd the safety of its tottering state !
 And led to Freedom with a patriot zeal,
 Teaching Danes humility to feel.
 Thou brave Defender of thy Monarch's right,
 Warwick's battlements were thy delight !
 Within whose Halls the Bard has issued forth
 The heavenly cadence of prophetic growth !
 As thy fair PHILLIS oft, enamour'd, hung
 O'er his aged head, and joined his song !
 Her eager eye, with glistening rapture seen,
 Love in her look, and Heaven in her mien !
 Her auburn tresses waving o'er the breast,
 Whose snowy whiteness Beauty's throne express'd ;
 From golden vestment stealing to the sight,
 Now chill'd by grief, then rising with delight ;
 While round her limbs, the purple tunic play'd,
 In every fold their symmetry betray'd ;
 As Nature's roses on her cheek express'd
 The fond emotions that her Soul confest !

Its thrilling transport and each secret joy !
 That Heaven had spared her gallant GUY ;
 The History list'ning of his warlike power,
 Who liv'd, of English Chiefs, the primest flower.
 And BEAUCHAMP, too, the great renown'd of old,
 Amidst thy ramparts did his power unfold ;
 Who spurning danger, from thy towers decreed,
 BRITANNIA's enemies should prostrate bleed ;
 Till proudest conquest crowning BEAUCHAMP's toil,
 Ensur'd the safety of this prosperous isle :
 Our SHAKESPEARE, too, in early life explor'd,
 The rural haunts which PHILLIS once ador'd ;
 Has hail'd the paths of innocence and love,
 With playful frolic through each waving grove,
 Where the lov'd Consort of the Warlike GUY,
 His absence mourn'd, with many a heartfelt sigh,
 When ancient feuds led the hostile way,
 And bless'd Religion open'd into Day ;
 When Holy Wars her faithful Consort stole
 From her fond arms, and anguish fill'd her soul ;
 Thy Castle towers oft his eye has seen
 In some retir'd spot of thy enchanting green ;

In some sequester'd Grove, where Contemplation's power
 Invited Genius to its fragrant bower;
 'Twas there our SHAKESPEARE rais'd his youthful mind;
 To heavenly talent all his hours resign'd;
 Adoring Nature, and her earliest laws,
 Nature's great master-piece! and fond applause!
 O, Soaring Genius! England owes to thee
 The School of feeling and humanity!
 The Avon's glassy tide thy Muse inspir'd;
 When Composition first thy bosom fir'd,
 Its dimpling stream, its winding course, became,
 The favourite subject of thy early fame;
 Its fertile banks, its meadows, green and fair,
 Its lofty oaks and tow'ring cypress, rare:—
 Retir'd from towns and busy haunts of men,
 In such calm scenes, SHAKESPEARE us'd his pen,
 To write on CAUSES and EFFECTS below,
 To picture happiness, and keenest woe!
 Describing Evil, and then Virtue's cause,
 Confirming Nature in her noblest Laws;
 The Passions raising, with a Poet's skill,
 Bestowing joy or sorrow at his will;

Immortal Bard ! ever shall STRATFORD prove
 The boast of England and its lasting love,
 The pride of Nature !—for our SHAKESPEARE, there,
 Fame shall claim transcendant laurels rare.
 So brilliant meteors, passing through the sky,
 With glory dazzle, then exhaust and die.
 Thus Life proceeds, and thus Life expires !
 The Morn, how cheering, with its genial fires !
 The Evening *cloudy*, and the Night all gloom,
 The foe to Genius, and its certain tomb !
 Sure G——LE's fate this moral well displays ;
 For Rank and Fortune crown'd his early days ;
 But time advancing, gave a sudden blow,
 And chang'd his happy hours, to grief and woe :
 While deep Ingratitude his bosom pain'd,
 And sad Adversity its triumph gain'd.
 Thy stately fabric long shall truths recal,
 Until each stone is crumbled of thy wall,
 Until thy turrets prostrate dust-heaps lie,
 And Fathers o'er thy Ruins pause and sigh ;
 And cry—'Twas here that WARWICK mourn'd his lot,
 By n——t ties and Fortune's smile forgot ;

An houseless wanderer ! driven from his own,
 Where Interest govern'd, decent feeling flown;
 Debar'd of entrance where he had his birth,
 Doom'd to regret his being while on earth :
 O, fatal season !—but his griefs are o'er,
 Life's storms have driven to the friendly shore;
 Where mortal cares no more their anguish prove :—
 He's safe, rewarded by his MAKER'S Love.

 NOTES.

1. Guy Earl of Warwick's wife was styled *Fair Phillis*, and a walk at the Castle is still kept in preservation, called *Fair Phillis's Walk*.
2. Guy, as History relates, fought with Colbrand, the Danish General, and overcame him.

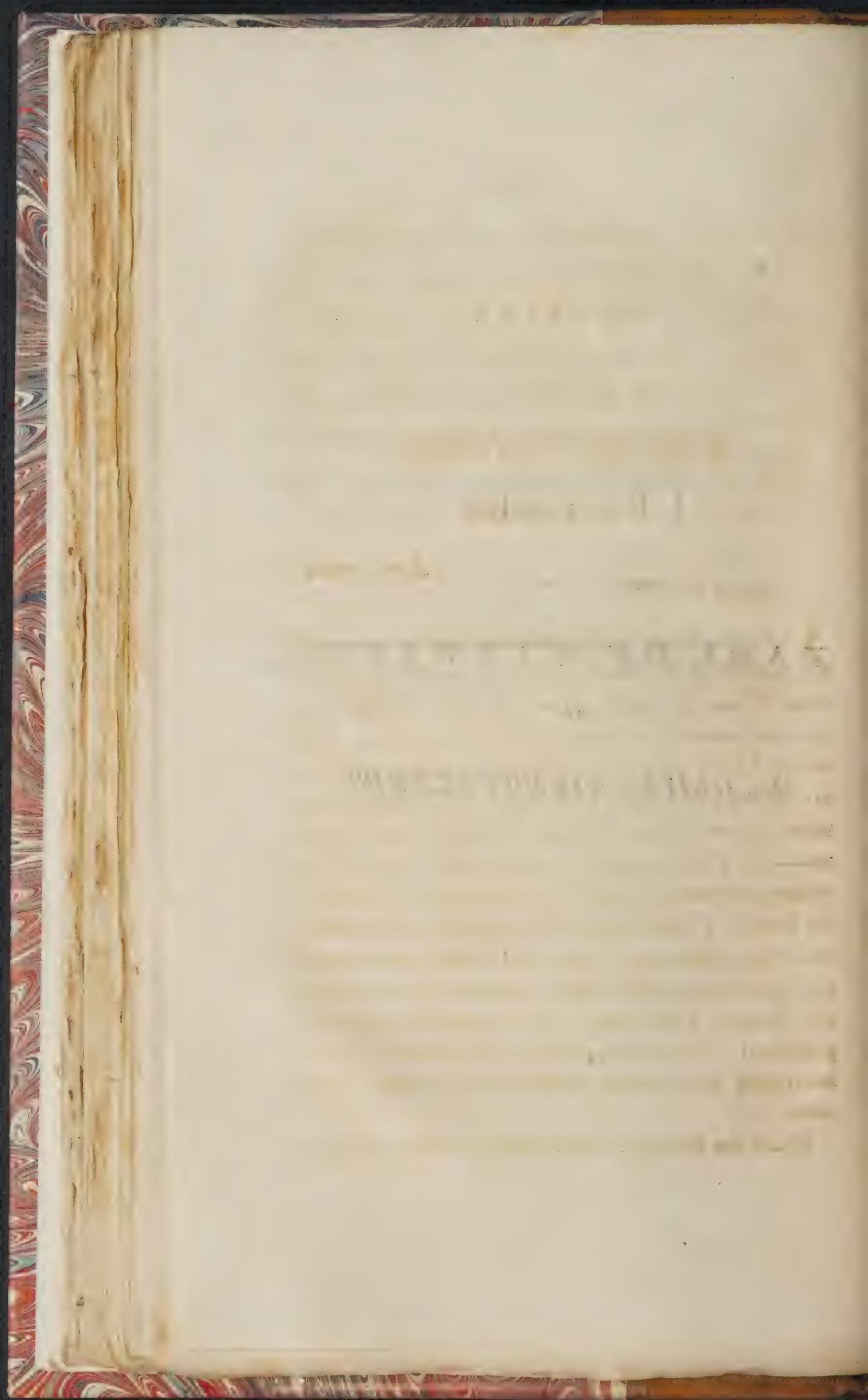
LETTERS

WRITTEN BY THE LATE

EARL OF WARWICK,

TO

Mrs. OLIVIA WILMOT SERRES.



LETTERS
OF THE LATE
EARL OF WARWICK.

April, 1804.

DEAR MRS. S.

A LETTER from your venerable uncle requests my patronage for your painting; need I say, after what I have so lately repeated, that nothing will give me more satisfaction than your welfare, and which I have promised sacredly to promote all in my power; for in no way have you merited the misery you have known, through your fatal m—ge. Your situation is melancholy;—virtuous, young, and amiable, and dispossessed of a protector in such a dangerous place as London, are matters truly affecting. But as I know your heart and principles have been regulated by my dear old friend, your uncle, I anticipate your deportment will be exemplary to all your sex, and becoming the talents nature has endowed you with.

Paint me a couple of pictures:—let the subjects

be *Morning* and *Evening*, and in your usual bold style. I prophecy your poetry and painting will equally demand the world's admiration, and your unmerited misfortunes entitle you to its esteem. Your Poems delight me!--Proceed in the flowery maze of genius; and by such studies the sorrows of your heart will be conquered.

W.

1804.

DEAR MADAM,

WELL may I think of nobody but yourself!--you really astonish me!--Thou second Shakespeare! Thou Warwickshire Maid!--Thou witch of wonders! that can at will so command the Muses---really, you are a child of nature! Untaught, yet wonderful, and accomplish whatever you wish, or say!--I have written to your uncle, and announced your improvements, and how often I *applaud*. Proceed!--and I shall live to hail you the English *Sappho*!

Your letter came importantly, I appreciate every line,---and remain your faithful friend,

W.

1804.

DEAR MADAM,

I SHALL obey your injunction ; 'tis a wise one : but where did you obtain such discrimination ? Sycophants are abounding every where ; but the noble deceiver was out of my observation, until your proper admonition riveted my attention ; I shall be doubly observant. I like the picture ; it is beautiful ; a true *Potter* ! The Corregio not less exquisite ! I hope I shall live to return ten-fold. God bless you.

Ever your's,

W.

1805.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM most anxious to hear from you :---a week has past, yet I have not experienced the pleasure. I do assure you, I begin to quarrel with time ! ---Pray write by return of post :---your letters are a great solace at all seasons, especially when worldly care presses upon my mind, and I have *plenty of that*.

The termination of the unpleasant business has been all produced by your zeal and regard.

Lady W—— shall some time know the excellencies of your heart; at present, it will be best not to interrupt our usual channel of correspondence;—your motives of friendship for me should not be misconceived; I am bound to repay your regard with a protection of name.—Alas! nothing can be more pure than our actions; yet being of a different sex, would not half the world, judging by their own weakness, feel inclined to suspect your friendship and mine; especially the females, who envying the acquirements you are mistress of, would exultingly (if possible) wound your fair fame. Such women, who would so act, possess not the advantages you have done.—Dr. Wilmot educated but *one*, and that individual I am addressing.—My faithful friend! who softens many a pang, which adversity has of late inflicted!—whose fortitude is my example!—But stop!—I shall grow what you dislike—*an Idolizer*!—You tell me, steady friendship, divested of flattery, is most lasting. Then, pardon me, and believe, it will be my grateful endeavour to merit *ever* your good opinion. Farewell!

Your's, truly,

W.

1805.

DEAR MADAM,

YOUR welcome letter is in my hand; and how sincere from the heart!--It has given me spirits, and I shall conscientiously observe its contents. It is very strange, but all you advise seems as if from some guardian power, accordant with my own mind;--so congenial to my feelings, that I only obey my own opinion, in following your's!--You have performed wonders! but zeal and sincerity is your motto. Thus, I am possessed of a balm no mortal power can dispossess me of,--*your faithful Friendship!*

God bless you!

W.

1805.

DEAR MADAM,

You have sacrificed too greatly at the shrine of friendship, I fear, and, what is still more distressing, at the present moment I have not the power to act as gratitude demands; but hope anticipates the period of a merited return. Sleeping or waking, your services employ my thoughts; would that age and deformity usurped the place of every feminine charm; then I might venture to make known the fervour of my gratitude: as it is, I ad-

dress you by stealth, and often with difficulty, dreading lest our friendship should be misinterpreted. Your good heart will excuse all this; but I admire the spirit that actuates your sentiments, while you declare, an applauding conscience is preferable to all the applause of mankind. You should have lived in other days, when a Briton's superiority and worth, was your characteristic. For the remittance I have received, thanks, Olivia, thanks! You are the only friend fate has left me; a most valuable acquisition amidst my calamities. I shall take the first legal advice; much depends *on that*. *Interested persons* are in an impolitic situation, standing on the brink of dreadful precipices, and seem aware of their danger.

I shall not sleep on the subject, but most vigorously proceed in my measures. The valuable book is a choice present, for which I am your debtor; I never before met with a copy of the work. Pray have advice for your side; a continual pain there is dangerous: you must live long; I cannot part with your friendship. You perceive I am all interest; my hope is to live to repay all I stand indebted to you. How is it? I am in no writing humour, yet cannot resist proceeding; in fact, I scribble over every corner of my paper, generally, when addressing yourself, and I perceive you do the same. Need I say, that I most eagerly anticipate receiving a letter from you tomorrow, and shall not fail to reply to it imme-

diately. Mr. ———, is a sly knave, that grows rich at his client's expence. Law! Law! it would be better if a man could live without it. In the Island of Portland there are neither lawyers or doctors!!—favoured spot!—Don't forget to send me your last ode. Your's sincerely,

W.

December 11th.

DEAR MADAM,

I most sincerely wish I could by any means assist you: I am quite without the power, not having succeeded in any thing; and you would not believe what I could say on this subject; but still I have the very great pleasure to add, that my future prospect is *very* good. I have got my case to be examined by persons of the greatest ability and character, and now my T—t will, unless insane, be afraid of supporting the mismanagement, to say no worse of it, they have been guilty of: so think my respectable friends, and I am trying, by *reference*, to avoid the horror of law. Thus, my hopes are raised beyond what they have been for years, and I now think very soon that I shall have the power, as well as the inclination, to be of ser-

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vice in return to you. I had reasons which were conclusive against coming to town now; but my business was well transacted by letter, and my friends are such as not to require being reminded of the necessity of exerting their zeal and abilities: I hope soon to be able to say they *have* succeeded, and that all I expect is realized. I can say no more, than that I hope to have the great satisfaction of hearing that your health is gradually recovering; and that your mind may be relieved from its present pressures, shall be my earnest endeavour.—May Heaven preserve you!

I am glad your medical aid is so good: so far amidst your trials, you have reason to be thankful. I will write the moment I can send you good news, of which I am now encouraged to hope.

Your's, truly,

W.

November 3d, 1813.

MISS LAVINIA SERRES,

I AM extremely concerned to hear the account you have sent me of the distressing situation of the health of your mother: and as to the note, if I could by any means assist her, I should most

gladly do it; but unfortunately I have failed in all I have tried: I most sincerely hope to hear soon from you, that the present alarming state of Mrs. Serres's health may be changed, and that though now so ill, she will be spared for your comfort and protection, and that she may live to see more happy times.

You are very right to lay all your dependence on Providence:—it is our duty to obey, with the most perfect resignation, what the Almighty Disposer of events ordains. I can assure you, that I will always prove to you, and your mother, that I have your interest much at heart, and that you shall not be left exposed, should the worst happen; which I hope you will not think; and which, I trust, the great skill and kind assistance of Sir H. Halford will prevent. I will be your protector; by every means in my power endeavour to render the future calamities you may labour under less severe. What to say more, I know not; but in general, believe that I will not forget you, and that I shall have the greatest satisfaction, if I shall be able in any degree to be of service to your afflicted mother and to yourself.

Believe me, I am your friend,

W.

If you have not given my last letter to your mother, burn it, I pray:—she must not be dis-

turbed, or talked to; she requires rest and repose.

August 6th. 1812.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE received the favour of your letter; and I return the note executed, likewise the new book: it contains so much curious matter, that, in a letter, it is quite impossible to say half that occurs.

I am truly distressed that I can add no more to your comfort; my wish is to do much more than my power admits; you should, (allow me to say) come to some determination, and having done so, pursue the most likely means of effecting it. Your situation requires great prudence, to devise, and much firmness, to execute; but you are equal to the call, and I sincerely hope that what you may resolve to do, may be attended with every benefit you can reasonably expect.

In general, I cannot see much advantage in residing in the country, though at first it seemed a practicable plan. London affords every thing; but money is a very essential requisite to command its advantages. I believe the world is so wicked, that landlords and tradesmen have no

confidence whatever, and unless furniture is put into the house, they will not let to strangers ; at least, so I am informed. H. has great experience, and if he had a house, would not scruple to let it to you, but he cannot oblige others to do so, and therefore, I fear there is too much truth in what he says. I am sure he is honest, and will not pretend to believe what he does not ; but yet I beg you will not place any more confidence in him than you think prudent.

I have packed and sealed the book safe, and will give them to a safe hand, if I cannot deliver them myself to-morrow.

I am, Madam,

Your obedient, &c.

W.

P.S, The nature of the fever my daughter now labours under, has not been yet ascertained ; if it should be of a dangerous kind, I must take proper precautions not to carry it to others ; but I hope and believe it is not of a malignant nature.

W.

November 16th, 1812.

DEAR MADAM,

I ONLY received your letter to-day, with £40 Bank of England notes, and the bill for £40 of Mr. Williams, which I send to you, indorsed.

I am sure it will be a very great satisfaction to you to know, that I owe to your exertions the only means I could immediately command, to get relieved from the most extraordinary and distressing situation. I flatter myself that you will still succeed; and I am the more anxious that it may be so, as it will afford me the great satisfaction of relieving you from that load of anxiety which must be so detrimental to your health and comfort. I do think that you have drank the last dregs of this bitter cup, and that the change will be the more acceptable by the long-sufferings you have experienced.

Do not despair;---comfort meets us in a strange way some times, as well as misfortunes, and we cannot predict the period of their courses;---we must content ourselves with doing all that we can, and leave the rest to Providence.

I have reason to think Mr. P. is active, zealous, and as honest as it is possible for a lawyer to be. I feel completely all you say, and think of them generally; but we must apply to them, and give them our confidence. The fact is, he has been very much deceived by money-agents, and he

dreads the deception they almost all are capable of. He acts prudently ; he waits to see the event of promises, without placing implicit confidence in them.

If Mr. W. can do the business, it is well ; but if he cannot, you will blame Mr. P. for having another resource. This he has, to my knowledge ; and I shall not suffer any person to interfere with Mr. W., if he acts as he promises, and *directly* ; and you must feel, that it would be an insult to Mr. P. were I to put this confidence in any other professional man, until he and I come to a separation. When I say this, I am aware of the truth of many of your observations on the subject, and shall, in consequence, act in future, but confidence is a plant of slow growth in an aged breast ; and I do not feel inclined to place it on any, especially on those perfectly unknown to me, and said to be betrayed money-lenders, and connected with the *most notorious of the tribe*. So I know Mr. P. thinks ; and therefore it becomes him, on his own account as well as mine, to be cautious. However, delay is fatal, and as I can, on my honor, assure you Mr. W. is but *one* of *three* offers of even *much larger sums*, he is not so anxious to close till *all is clear* ; but I do think it would be using Mr. W. ill, to accept of any other offer than his, if he acts directly the right part ; but if there is any shuffle, the sooner the negociation is at an end the better.

I hope and trust that there will be no occasion for this step; and as soon as the deed of security is returned to Mr. P., I will come to town; but if I were now in London, I could not, in honour, and in consequence of a solemn pledge given to Mr. P., put my hand to any person, or give my hand to any measure in which the Trust is concerned. I have weighed all in the balance, and am clearly of opinion I act as I ought to do; and this is, and ever shall be, my sole guide. I feel as I ought to do the kind and anxious expectations you have formed, and know how cruel a disappointment, or any unnecessary delay, must be to your ardent mind; but caution and prudence must not quit the helm.

W.

*Hubbum Lodge, Christchurch,
August 30th.*

I HAVE but a moment's time to say that I have received your letter, and am extremely concerned to find you are so ill:--I sincerely hope you will find relief, and be restored to that health which is so requisite under your present dif-

ficulties, more particularly. As the family goes to church three miles off, where our post is, I must write but a very few lines. Mr. C. I have written to, and hope that every thing in that quarter will be settled to your entire satisfaction.

Heaven preserve you!

DEAR MADAM,

THE agreeable news, of the agreement being *signed*, I have received :—much, very much, is due to your exertions, for which *I am obliged*. On the whole, I consider the business to have been *prosperously*, and most *ably*, conducted; none but those engaged in such negotiations, can know how many obstacles are to be removed, &c.; but now all seems done, and you may feel proud of your *mercantile abilities*, as well as your *talents*.

Mr. M—— I have written to fully, as to assistance in the concern. Whatever you may think of H——s, there is no man alive that has worked so hard to benefit the Soap; and he knows better than any man the valuable merchants ready to take any quantity of it: I have mentioned their names to Mr. M——. H——s, as an agent for selling, might be most usefully employed in the *Foreign Department, East and West India Trade*; and, I should think, that he might find a very good return made by disposing of it in the *Retail Department*. I should be happy to settle

something of this sort, and believe it would answer.

Suppose I were to engage to give you £200, per annum, independent of the concern, and to do so until your share, as a sleeping partner with myself, amounts to £400 per annum, or more:* I throw this out as a hint only; but it is worthy of consideration, and I should think Mr. M—— would adopt it: I could recommend him to a great many families.

W.

WHAT I have written, in a former letter, may not be correct; but, whether or not, there is no harm in being quite safe; and I very much doubt if it is, to receive a third of the profits, cloaked by its being for the patent, or use of the earth, &c. If I am right in this apprehension, I am standing on a dreadful precipice; therefore, I must be *quite certain* that all is *safe*, before I proceed.

The sale of the marl is, as far as it has gone, a separate and distinct act, and has nothing to do with the great concern. Mr. M—— cannot be affected by my being safe; consequently, if he

* Lord Warwick perceived that the Editor should have a sum yearly from the profits of the Earth.

acts fairly, he cannot object to my making myself so. If he opposes, it will at once give fair ground of suspicion of the *worst*; but mind, I do not now accuse him.

It will become indispensably necessary, that some lawyers of credit should examine the agreement, before it is finally signed and ratified. Mr. Gunning, 14, Clements Inn, will take the charge of it; and if he gives his sanction, all will be right; or Mr. Hughes, 8, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, a most respectable man: or if Mr. M—— will agree to boil a boiling, and to ascertain the price of the Soap fairly, as he means to sell it; then the third, added to the price now fixed on the ton of *Soap Earth*, will be the price of the ton of earth I am to deliver at the *wharf*; and here all difficulty is got over;—no risk, no trouble, no lawyers: all that need to be said, “*so much per ton for the marl earth, delivered at the wharf.*”

W.

August 21st, 1812.

MADAM,

I SHOULD have been very glad if I could have communicated a good account of your commis-

sion. Though obliged to go some miles to the south to-day, I got to Middlesex Hospital just in time; but Mr. C—— had been from home since eleven o'clock. I then went and returned; but he was still out. I left word that I would write; and that I purpose to do directly. I am grieved to find you not comfortably settled; but I hope it will be soon done. I am so distressed by people not keeping their appointments, that I am rather out of temper, for it consumes the little time I have to spare: I had, however, the great pleasure to save from absolute destruction a very worthy old gentleman, such a one as you describe in the book you was so good as to send me, and which afforded me much satisfaction: I wish many would read it, with more attention than is commonly bestowed on advice. I am glad your daughter, who seems a very good disposition and natural character, not such as are made up with much needless care, is settled to your mind, where her education will not be neglected; and I hope that she will soon be intitled to be your friend and esteemed daughter. Pray take care of your health; if the pain in your side continues, consult Sir H. H——d; get your thoughts employed as soon as you can; he will tell you the mind should not be suffered to prey on itself. I have received the acknowledgments as to the last note, should it be brought forward in future.

Weymouth, Nov. 7th, 1815.

DEAR MADAM,

I am not sure if I have done right or not by complying with Dr. L——'s request, to return an acceptance (instead of the old bill) to Mr. P. Fearing the delay, or the necessity of waiting the return of letters, I sent it this morning to Mr. P; and he I suppose will convey it to you; for this is but right.

I have written to Mr. W., and I hope satisfactorily; he entertains an high and good opinion of you, and has that confidence in you those who know you best will sanction. I will not say how much I feel impressed with your observations; it will be to shut ones eyes to deny them, being more than plausible. I will, as soon as I can get away, be in town; but at present I cannot: I have to discharge bills, and pay the journey, &c. I have received the finest account from Mr. L. from Somersetshire, which confirms all you have heard:—it is a most valuable property, and will soon become a matter of great importance. I have much to communicate, as to the receivership:—this I cannot solely determine on, as I suppose my Trust (whether this or a new one) must be a party, and agree on it. I have a very good opinion of Mr. W——s, but he is not the only person fit for the business. I am not able to say more, than that I shall be glad in this, as well as in all other matters, to know you think I have acted properly.

When two people of integrity and good sense meet, there is no great difficulty in agreeing. I most sincerely lament that I can be of no service to you, under your innumerable difficulties. I send the bill, executed, I hope, properly; but having destroyed your letter, fearing its being read, for I have no conveniencies to keep my papers safe, I am not sure if I have remembered the instruction accurately; though I trust it will be sufficiently so.

W.

Dec. 30th., 1813.

DEAR MRS. SERRES,

I HAVE returned the papers by the mail; the post is very expensive.* I have sent Mr. M——'s letter open, that you may peruse, and give it to him. I am sorry that matters were not clearly understood, so as not to confound the trial with future agreements. Get the soap settled; then I will consent to the proposals, and give you full authority to bind the agreement. I have, I do assure you, other persons ready to make liberal offers, should Mr. M—— not finish the business *directly*, which I hope he will do.

* The Editor had to send such large packets to his Lordship, during his residence in the country, they frequently were beyond the weight allowed for franks.

But to conclude; I hereby give you full and complete authority to act as you can and please to do. L——y is a ——, but a good soap-boiler. You will do as you please;---give him £50, and let him settle his account with me. It is false that I owed him what he states; and this letter you will be so good as to send him.

God bless you!--I trust the great anxiety, labour, and ability you have shewn, will bring good fruit, and be your reward. I write in great haste, to save the post; as the witnesses are Earl Portarlington's son, the Hon. Mr. Dawson, and my butler, Duncan.

Dear Madam,

Your's truly, &c.

WARWICK.

P.S. You may put a wafer in the letters, if you please. Send Mr. M——'s letter, or not, as you judge fit.

October 17th, 1814.

DEAR MADAM,

IF you can get the amount of Dr. L——'s note, *immediately*, you will do me most essential service;---this must be sent, by Mr.

P——, to Mr. P——ro; as it may stop proceedings here. I will say no more; for however I dislike to trouble you, under *present circumstances*, I know you will feel sincere and great pleasure in assisting me:---this I trust you will have it in your power to do.

I could command a small sum in a few days; but, I fear, too late:---dispatch becomes essentially necessary on the present occasion, and you know this. If all the lawyers, &c. in the kingdom, were more inclined to favor the concerns of others, it would be of the greatest consequence; if activity and zeal for doing what is right, operated more than it does, in regard to client's concerns. The determination of the grand business cannot be long put off:--for your sake, and my own, I wish it. I shall soon have the pleasure, I hope, of seeing you, and congratulating you upon the recovery of your health and tranquillity of mind,---the two greatest blessings of life.

Always truly your's,

WARWICK.

P.S. I believe Mr. P——ro resides in Charles Street, Cavendish Square, but am not sure; it might be better that the monies, should be transmitted to him by Mr. Parker, than *by you*, as he is extremely deaf.

December 3rd, 1813.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM sorry to hear that you are still so ill, but I fear that no sudden change can be expected, before your mind is more at rest. You well know that misfortunes are not to be avoided, in this life; but that right feelings of duty, to bear them with resignation and patience, will produce often the most unlooked-for changes: and render what were most gloomy prospects, more favorable:—it is but a small comfort to consider that our distresses might have been more severe; but still it is a consolation to know we are not in the lowest stage of misery, and that Providence will assist us to rise to an higher.

I am still without the power to afford you any *Payments*; but I do sincerely hope that very soon I may be more fortunate, when you may rely on my writing relative to it. As to the Soap, I fear poor H——s has been reduced to the greatest danger and distress; and I am the more concerned, because I have been, in some measure, the innocent cause of it: I fear he cannot be present, to give the particulars of the soap; but the man, who has for years been employed by me, in the making of the Soap, can furnish all the information required; and, believe me, there never was a time more favorable for renewing the business. L—— is at Back Hill, Black Bear

R

Yard, Hatton Garden. The Soap might be begun upon a moderate scale, if we could agree as to the mode of proceeding. I must not be a *Manufacturer*; but interested in getting payment for the quantity of *Soap Earth* delivered; otherwise I should be subject to *Bankrupt Laws*. H——s is the man I should, in preference, employ, to manage the agreement, as he is an honest man, and perfectly understands the whole of this most *important* concern; but I doubt if he could now be found; therefore L—— is the only person who understands, and can prove, the immense value of the business.

W.

December 13th, 1814.

DEAR MRS. S.

YOUR friendship I shall never forget! I most anxiously anticipate the hour that will enable me to return all your kindness;—I feel as I ought every thing you essay to benefit my interests, and trust Providence will return tenfold, your most noble and friendly conduct. Things go on with me, much as usual; Mr. P——

thank Heaven, is actively vigilant, and will soon bring the *Gentlemen* to a sense of their unworthiness:—keep up your spirits; do not lose your noble fortitude, for which I so greatly admire you:—firmness of mind in a female is seldom met with, such as *you* are endowed with.—Tell W—— I am awaiting another letter;—then I shall, if it so requests, obey the summons. God bless you!

W.

*Hubbam Lodge, near Christ Church,
November 6.*

DEAR MRS. S.

I HAVE endeavoured to procure you a side of fine buck venison in vain; for the deer are not fat, as they ought to be, in the park of the friend I asked.—I am greatly grieved, that my having no control over my own, at Warwick Park, prevents my acting as I would wish, otherwise situated;—but it is literally the case that I cannot command one article from my Warwick domains;—a fatal proof how badly persons are treated, who delegate to re——ves

the management of their concerns. Experience is dearly purchased; I can *truly* say so!--for grief, oppression, and injustice, have rendered me, at *too late a season of life*, WISE!--However, there is no virtue without courage to meet the visitations of this chequered scene; then let us endeavour to rise superior to worldly trials, and place our reliance where no mortal power can operate to our disadvantage.

If I value yourself greatly above the generality of your sex, it is because you are so like my valued old friend, and act as he would instruct, if living;—but your perfections, my dear Mrs. Serres, are the effects of habit. In your early days the mind and manners of Doctor Wilmot impressed their sober precedents upon your young and energetic mind. Nature, by having so greatly endowed you with clear and comprehensive talents, stimulated improvements beyond your years; and used to retirement in your uncle's latter days, although in the midst of a noisy and dissipated world, you lived a rational and secluded life. But for your example and friendship, I should be hopeless,---so conditioned as my estate of life, *at present*, is. Alas! I may truly say, *This life is a dream of vanity!*

My best love attend your excellent Lavinia:—tell her, I cherish a recollection of her in my warmest regard; and shall hope, in a few months, to be able to convince you of my sincere grati-

tude for your services; but at this lamented moment my hands are tied, or the note you have paid should be returned. God bless you!

Ever your's,

W.

June 22nd, 1813.

MADAM,

It would answer no good purpose to call on you now; I am truly most engaged, and on business of the utmost difficulty, so that I must not stir from home a moment. I have hopes, that in a few days I shall be able to meet you with some good news, and sincerely congratulate you on the appearance of the publication, which I now believe will not be long delayed. I know that you must be subject to a great variety of cruel distresses, and I feel them heavily, as I cannot by any means alleviate them. Time produces great events, and often is the only means of a change from good to bad. It is true, ours is a chequered life; the only way to treat it, is to be as well prepared as we can, when things frown, and to meet them with resolution; or when in prosperity, remember moderation is the only secure harbour to moor in with safety.

You must be satisfied with the regard of those you esteem; and not expect too much from them. Occupation is the grand secret against disquiet; for an active mind, unoccupied, preys on itself, and this is ruination to comfort: we all meet with food enough for disquiet; but the sun-shine entices us on to fresh exertions. Thus you may reap satisfaction and benefit from the *Life of your Uncle*. I most sincerely wish you may. You must expect a few attempts of your enemies; which, after all, may perhaps be of service, and make the object more one of interest.

I need not say that I feel very anxious to see the Work appear, which will, I am confident, be the source of unlooked-for benefit to you. That I may be a true, as well as sincere prophet, will, I trust, be seen shortly. With every wish for its success,

I remain, Madam,

Your's obediently, &c.

W.

Weymouth, July 6th, 1813.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM here but for a very short time, on a business that will not detain me long. The account you give of *Junius's Letters* is very curious;

and indeed seems to me more than probable that it is at length discovered what has been a question of the greatest doubt of any ever agitated. I am not sufficiently acquainted with the writings of your late uncle to judge myself. He was always reported a very good scholar; but the *Letters of Junius* speak for themselves. Perhaps other proofs may appear to set the matter at rest. I shall probably soon have the opportunity of talking the interesting matter over; but I cannot exactly say when I shall be in town, though the public business is too important to be neglected. I wish I could do any thing that would tend to remove the anxiety you must so much feel on *all* accounts; but matters seem at a stand, and the *few* friends I had depended on have failed.

I am sorry to hear Lavinia is not quite well. Would it be of any service if she had a piano-forte? I think I could get her one, and an instructor.

I am, Dear Madam,

Your's, affectionately,

W.

P.S. Is it not possible that your Uncle, being a man known to possess learning and ability, may not have been engaged in CORRECTING?

DEAR MRS. S.

I AM sorry public and private business prevented my calling to day. I am most anxious to convince you of the exceeding interest I take in your welfare; and lament, hourly, all my intentions of a grateful nature are frustrated. Pray keep up your spirits. It is sufficient if you know my wishes to be of service, and that my means are not equal to them at present. There is but one right line to take; and, on all occasions, that must be done, or the greatest evils ensue. You are right in saying, Happiness does not depend on any thing, but what must command the control of one's passions, the pleasure of moderation, and the duty of submission to what is not in our own disposal. I agree with you, that any attempt to get out of this right line leads to a thousand distresses and difficulties, and can never be got over. It is pleasant enough to get a step higher than necessary; but a step sends us headlong to the bottom! Here is a Sermon for you; I hope you will reap more benefit from it than most congregations do; who, to say the truth, seem generally thinking of something else, than the sacred business which should employ them.

I sincerely hope nothing will prevent *the Book* from coming out this week. It will be a curious experiment; and many and various will be the

opinions, doubts, ill-natured observations, &c., while some friends will take the part of the author. I really believe it will be the means of giving you comfort, and many amusements. Some wait to hear what others say, before they will dare to risk an opinion; but if all read and buy, it will be as much as you desire.

I am glad your brother has no objections, as to the fact produced: he spoke reasonably; and I could not say much in opposition. He wishes you to be settled near town: this I think a good plan; and then you might be relieved from some of your anxieties, and have leisure to pursue your talents.

Your's ever,

W.

May 14.

DEAR MADAM,

THE ways of Providence are wonderful! or the affair you have related to me would not have occurred: it is a curious matter, but I had a strong presentiment that the trials you have encountered would so terminate! Your welfare is my first wish; and Heaven, I hope, at some no

S

very distant period, will enable me to convince you of my gratitude, more effectually than by words. I am endeavouring all in my power to get into my saddle once more; and you may rest satisfied, if I once recover the reins of my rights, that I will never surrender my power again, as I have done. But who could have supposed that relations would have conducted themselves in so interested a way? Had I solicited strangers all would have been well; as it is, I may truly affirm, *even the nearest are interested!* Keep up your spirits all you can; things cannot remain long in so unprecedented a position. Legality will yet prove my champion; and as I enjoy the best health imaginable, my enemies must give in at last; and we shall yet meet joyfully in the scenes so dear to you and myself.

In regard to the affair of an immediate introduction to the *****, you will confer an inexpressible favour if you will defer your intention. I wish to behold you in the situation you were born to fill; and gold, that most desirable of all essentials, is necessary to put things in a proper condition for your respectability. I will endeavour to raise the sums I am indebted; but *men* are so shy, and prejudice operates so greatly to my disadvantage, that I fear, whenever my name is mentioned, the negociation will end! So much for the interested falsehoods, circulated to my disadvantage; so much for the philanthropy of

my ———. Are not the laws deficient which allow such violations of rights, as my case verifies? But Equity will relieve me; and I trust greatly upon the sound mind and integrity of the Chancellor, who will dive to the bottom of the business:—so hope for the best, and know you will share any good fortune which falls to my lot; and it will be an honest pride on my side of the question to convince you of the high sense I have entertained, as to the services you have rendered me. Love to Lavinia.

Your's, truly,

W.

January 4th, 1814.

DEAR MRS. S.,

PERSEVERE in the paths you have chosen; a firm and disinterested integrity in a woman, must ever claim admiration. But I have long known that your soul is of a superior texture, and above all kinds of interested feeling! And I prophecy the period is not very distant, when your talents and virtues will be well appreciated by the world! Do not think me remiss or ungrateful; but the fact is, all I have endeavoured,

has been frustrated by undermining agents ; and I verily believe that all my actions are watched. The incendiaries had better keep concealed, or my indignation will be roused, and friend or foe will be treated as such shameful conduct merits. Times are indeed changed ; for I am enduring an existence of splendid misery, and meeting hourly insults, even from my servants. My tea is the commonest, unless I breakfast out of my study with my family ; and I have a quire of paper, and a stick of wax, sent me at a time : it is true, the Trustees pay Lady W—— the sums intended for the expenditure of my household ; but it appears the original source of such allowance is forgotten ; for my own is withheld, in a way that hourly wounds my soul ; and this day I have not one shilling in my purse, although the powdered coxcombs around me have plenty. Should this be ? I anticipate your reply ; and shall rouse myself to a courage of mind that will effectually terminate so degrading a system ! My heart bleeds, as I see my suffering creditors, without being possessed of the means of relief. No man can pray more ardently than I do, to live to pay every one ; and, well and honestly managed, there would be plenty to do this.

Mr. P—— is doing all he can ; and every thing which is just and honorable. You may be easy as to the suit ; for Mr. P—— has waded

through a sea of difficulties, and amidst which any other man would have been disheartened.

Your obliging assistance has enabled me to settle a threatening execution: I will next month return you the sum advanced. As a trifling proof of my gratitude, allow me to give your excellent daughter a master for her music; I know an honest man who is very capable; he taught the Ladies G. and can be immediately had: I will also make her a present of a piano; and I hope, before the close of the year, to be reinstated in my castle, and then the first object of my existence shall be to repay all the services you have rendered me, with treble interest. God bless you and L.! Bear up:---all will soon be well.

I am truly, your's,

W.

Weymouth, November 7th.

MY DEAR MRS. SERRES,

WE are very gay here, at present, and much of my time is spent with the Princess we so truly love. As Her Royal Highness was talking to me last evening, it struck me there is,

at times, a great similarity of mind to yourself;--- she is generous, open, and sincere; and possesses an integrity beyond the usuality of things!—She calls me, her dear Lord Warwick, and honors me with the most flattering notice! Talking of the *Zephyr*, she said, “When I am Queen, Lord Warwick, the wooden walls of Old England shall be my safety; for I love the honesty and sincere plain dealing of sailors!” She then expatiated on the glorious victories obtained by Nelson; and, with much judgment, pointed out the merits of other naval officers. You would have been delighted with her sentiments. Yet, at times, she appears thoughtful---I fear she studies too much; for, although she is *en-bon-point*, her health is not, I fear, exactly as it could be wished; but when one loves, one is ever apprehensive; and I anticipate so much from her excellencies hereafter, that her excessive paleness alarms me: she told me she was not well, but Lady _____ observed to me, this morning, it was from being out of humour! which a little vexed me; for, take the Princess C_____ all together, she is very good-natured and cheerful. We cannot always make your sex, my dear Mrs. S., discriminate justly; and, I am sorry to say, very little sincere affection exists among females.

And now for the troublesome part of my history. The Divine seems, of an inclination to procrastinate the matters; I hinted in my last what

has been promised: the affair remains as it did last week; but I have written to Lord O——, and I trust, some compunctious visitings of conscience will induce him, in the affair, to act honorably!

Lady W—— has a cold; and I have been over to the happy island,* where neither Lawyer nor Doctor reside. The good people's ruddy countenances tell me, they are an *enviable* race of beings, blessed with health and contentment. I hope, very shortly, to collect some pebbles that will please you. Time hangs rather heavily on my hands, and the delays of my grand concern much distress me:---every thing is attended with uncertainty, for the £300 I was promised last week is not forth-coming; and I fear you are greatly inconvenienced by having so kindly enabled me to relieve the execution.

I am your's, ever,

W.

* The Island of Portland.

1814.

DEAR MADAM,

I do assure you I feel very sensibly the misfortunes you labour under;—I lament I could do no more. I have not succeeded in the objects I had in view, so that I have been greatly inconvenienced lately; but I trust this will not last long. I have the best expectations from Mr. Parker's diligence, zeal, and ability. You may rely on it he is completely master of the subject, and is going on progressively to the attainment of the *great objects* of which I have no doubt those who *thought themselves so secure*, find themselves miserably deceived, and *their ruin and disgrace* will be the consequence. Though I am not by nature vindictive, I confess I have but little compassion for the Trust Solicitors, and am astonished at the blindness of the *ostensible PRINCIPLES* in the business. We are here in a small hotel, but much more quiet than at West Cowes; though, to say the truth, we are but scantily accommodated; and a race, or sailing match, with a ball in our house, will I believe, rout us. But there is not a lodging to be had *now* in the island, and where to steer is the question:---probably to Weymouth, for a short time, before I begin to think of Warwick Castle;

where, my solicitor says, he shall very soon conduct me.

Love to Lavinia.

Your's truly, W.

W.

January 19th, 1814.

DEAR MADAM,

WHY write so much?—Answer:—
 “Because I think so much!”—But having DONE
so much, rest awhile.—When shall I be able to
 repay your services?—But in the happiness of
 yourself, no one can take a more lively or affectionate
 interest:—regard, established on the
 principles of truth and honour, exists for ever
 in congenial minds.—Yes! we shall yet sur-
 mount our misfortunes; and, at the Castle, once
 more partake of the sweets of fortune. I am so
 used to your conversation, when there, you must
 promise to visit your dear native place. I shall
 be rejoiced publicly to testify the gratitude of
 my soul.

God bless you!

W.

T

DEAR MADAM,

WHAT *I* wished, *you* have *effectually* done, by the steps you wisely took: I feel, as I ought, truly obliged to you. We are all liable to be deceived; and those the most so, who possess the best qualities of mind and heart:---and which, although an inestimable treasure, are still, like all others, liable to such danger. Let us look forwards; and, believe me, no change in circumstances can make any alteration in the opinion which my knowledge of you has authorized me to form, and which I am so willing to avow.

I am, dear Madam,

Your's truly,

WARWICK.

Monday, March 10th.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE endeavoured to find a house that would suit you; and I have two at your option: one on the other side of the road, a distance from Marchmont-street, a very excellent house, the

particulars enclosed;—you might get into it on the 12th of May next:—another, a smaller one, at Hampstead, airy, and which perhaps would be more retired: both have small gardens and excellent air, all to yourself. If you should be inclined to think of either, I could, I am persuaded engage it for you; therefore, it would not be prudent to take a house for a length of time.

In regard to Mr. G——'s demand, he has none on me; but one bill he was obliged to pay to a fellow, who behaved very ill; I think it was £30. When I can examine the account, I can settle it, but not before. I wish you had got rid of the picture and the statue; for though I should, with satisfaction, place you in a comfortable situation, you know, in my present one, I have much to do; and sums, which of themselves do not strike us as of much importance, when added together, form a formidable amount. All this may and, I hope, will be set right; but without a regular plan, it cannot be expected. I assure you I will do all I can, and that as soon as possible. This is all I can now say or do. I beg you to keep up your spirits. We all must have our trials, and endeavour to make them as light as we can; but come they will, and through the key-hole, though the door is shut.

Your's truly,

W.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE sent Mr. M. a letter, that I have desired he will shew you. I have given you full authority to act for me in the concern. Two hundred pounds he has a right to pay for the marl, in the first instance; but I leave all to you. If he will pay down £1000, he may make the six tons of earth into soap per week, for twelve weeks; and I will send him all that he wants, beyond what there remains on the premises;—but I believe he will not advance this sum; therefore get the £15 per ton for the earth, and the half of the *nett profits*. If you cannot get the *half*, at least make the best bargain you can, and *halve the half*; but do exactly what you *best can do*; for it is a great object to get the work *afloat*, and that without delay. I write in great haste. I have no fit lawyer here, to prepare the instrument of agreement; therefore think it best done in town. I sincerely hope that you will find no further obstacles, and that I shall, in a few days, be able to send you the final account relative to Clutton and Aulcester.

I am, Dear Madam,
Your's, truly,

W.

P.S. Your exertions are admirable.

DEAR MRS. S.

I AM truly concerned to hear of your distress, when I have not the power to do any thing to prevent it; but I trust some change will happen, which will do more than we can now expect or depend on. My best remembrances to your good daughter: she has too many good qualities, not to merit the affection of those who know her.

I do not know if I did or did not inform you that I received a letter from *Mrs. Roe*, who married a younger son of the Roes of Warwick, my father's steward, and the jailor's brother. Captain S. courted her only daughter, and Mrs. Roe wrote to me to inform her what I knew of Captain S.—A second letter acquaints me she is happy she has “discovered in time what *sets the matter at rest*, as Captain S. *is in custody*.” These are her words; but she gives no further explanation;—this is *passing strange!* as you must admit.

It is said, a calm succeeds a storm, and that nothing in this life is stationary: so I believe; and this is an additional reason to hope that your misfortunes are run out nearly; and that you may enjoy a most pleasant evening's repose, after the toils of a busy and troublesome journey through the day, is most sincerely my wish.

I am, always, truly yours,

W.

P.S. Though Mr. P——o's business is settled, it could be done, but by borrowing, that *I must repay*.

DEAR MRS. S.,

I AM rather afraid that I shall not be able to return a satisfactory answer to your queries in general. Mr. H. Lucas, a very opulent man, of about £7,000 per annum, and perfectly conversant in Collieries, has offered to give me the eighth, the usual royalty in Collieries; to pay for all the machinery, shafts, rail roads, &c., which may be required to be made; and, in short, to guarantee me from all risk and expence; and after all, to give me (besides) the half of the net profits. Such an offer never has been before made, and would not have been done, had not the Collieries of Clutton been of a value not commonly met with.

The last rental of my estate is £24,000 per

annum; and to it may be added at least £1000 per annum timber, and the thinning of plantations; so that fairly the present rental may be stated at £25,000 per annum. As all the leases are expiring over my estates, and they comprise nearly 10,000 acres of excellent land, all under-let, I may, with mines of stone, gravel, bricks, &c., estimate them next year, at an increase of £10,000; soap, at least £5,000; Collieries, estimated at £40,000 per annum; land, £10,000; call both but £30,000; then the rental will be,

Collieries and Land	£30,000 per Ann.
Present Rental	25,000
Soap	5,000
Stone and Gravel, Middlesex and Hackney	5,000
	£65,000
Improved Rent, on releasing all my } Property	10,000
	£75,000 per Ann.
Deduct Outgoings now paid annually, } only	15,000
Annual Income, at the most moderate } calculation	£60,000

I do not know what the offices will require for insuring my life; I believe $8\frac{1}{8}$ per cent; but I will answer all those queries more decidedly soon. I have not one sixpence, but have some chance of obtaining a small sum in a day or two: I have a book worth thirty pounds, which I bought cheap; I wish I could get fifteen pounds for it. I will try to-morrow whether I cannot dispose of it. I am impatient to hear what will be done by Lord B——. I still hope good will arise from your noble exertions. I write before I go to bed, which I shall do directly, and hope for good news to-morrow.

When I succeeded to the estates, they were but £10,000 per annum. The *increased value will speak in my case*. Let him who denies this, say *why?*---for the estates are at present under-rated: and I also paid off £50,000, debts, I found when I succeeded to the estate; and had not a sixpence of ready money, nor any fund at my disposal. Let the addition of three thousand acres to my home estate, and Warwick Castle, speak for itself!---So much for having *injured* the property!

Your's truly,

W.

P. S. A wafer is better than one hundred seals,
and is not so noticed, believe me.

April 23rd.

DEAR MRS. S.

I AM sure you are all anxiety for my recovery, but you seem not to understand the nature of my complaint. I have no soreness on my lungs, which are sound; and therefore, the weakness I feel on any exertion is but a symptom of my original complaint; but I give much credit to the great sense of the observations you have sent to me. Sometimes an uneducated ignorant quack will effect a wonderful cure; but it certainly requires much experience and education to know when to apply, and when to stop: here is the grand difference. Let well alone, is an admirable rule; but when the machine is out of order, it is to be put in action by a person who understands its constitution, and the principles on which it moves. I am now to inform you of a circumstance of very great importance; it is no less than that my oppo-

U

nents begun to be alarmed for quickly *approaching consequences*. I always knew that nothing but dread of them would avail. Lord B. has, to Sir Charles Greville, expressed a wish that an amicable agreement should take place instead of the determined hostility he sees daily proceeding, and how to effect it, neither he nor his advisers can comprehend. Believe me Mr. P. has been indefatigable, and must ultimately obtain a complete triumph, in opposition to as *foul a c——y* of usurpation as was ever formed.

I augur much good, for there can be no triumph over relations who ought to have but one common interest; if this prospect succeeds, as I hope it will, you shall receive the earliest information. Now as to Mr. B——t, you say, if the thirty pounds is settled, more may be obtained; I wish I could command the first, that the second might take place; but though I could give security on the Trust debt, it is at present impossible.

Your's truly,

W.

May 3d, 1814.

DEAR MRS. S.

THE letter seems satisfactory because it is *short*, and not full of excuses or plausible pretexts; but it will be soon seen if all *is right*, and there is no compliment in business. I will certainly attend to-morrow at one o'clock, when I hope every thing will be concluded one way or another. I would not see Leary, who called this morning; your opinion and mine coincide entirely in regard to him: how far Mr. M. will judge fit to employ him, is the question which he must decide.

I must sincerely hope that you will find yourself daily recovered, and that fine weather will do more than medicine; and that matters going on *smoothly* will take off the irritation which has unavoidably prevented your speedy recovery.

Your's, faithfully,

W.

30, Green Street,

July 14, 1815.

DEAR MISS L. S.

I AM truly glad to hear that you have already found some benefit from your stay in the

country. A quiet life, good society, and early hours, give a tranquillity to the mind, and is much the friend of *good health*; but there is no leaving cares behind us, and it is impertinent in them to presume to approach one so young, and who deserves to be happy, because you have made that of your mother your first object. She needs your society, I fear, so much, that it is only compensated by her knowing your absence is for your good. Few know how dear their friends are to them, until they are separated. It is common for present good to be neglected, and prized the more when in danger of being removed; but, on the whole, I am persuaded it was quite right to leave town; and I should not perhaps say it is wrong when you return. You see I am determined not to quarrel with you unnecessarily.

Your music I hope you will not forget; it will always be a pleasing resource to you, and your mother delights in hearing you play; especially as she is prevented from amusing herself by the exercise of her talents, it is the next thing she would prefer, to be obliged to you. Mr. Pickering, I believe, is a musician; I beg my compliments to him, but not on that account; as I do not know a note in music, nor am I so strange as to revere those who do, as a Sir J. Langham did, who made a present of a silver cup to every gentleman in the

county who liked music: I have the cup he gave to my father many years ago.

There is no news to be depended upon, though very important accounts are daily expected from Paris. The people are such butterflies they are not to be relied upon for a moment, and seem not to know where to go, or what to do. Buonaparte will start up, I fear, when least expected; but his day is surely past as to real mischief.

Ever your friend,

W.

1814.

DEAR MADAM,

I RECEIVED £140 safe; it came most seasonably, and I am much obliged for your indefatigable efforts to effect what would probably not otherwise have been done. I feel great concern that any jealousy should exist between Mr. P—— and Mr. W——; I should have thought there could not have been room for any quarrel; unfortunately so it is: it will require much temper

and sound sense to keep clear of danger; however, I must admire the good and excellent qualities you possess, in such a superior degree; but allow me to add that no one is perfect; and, if I am not much mistaken, you have a *fault*, which I think is equally mine, that of giving confidence from feeling too much, and neglecting the sounder guidance of your judgment. I know a good heart, and a generous one, is above the mean ideas of suspicion, which has been called, by *cowards*, virtue; but there is so much duplicity and iniquity in the world, that no honest man can conduct himself, so as not to be in danger of artful knaves:—I have severely smarted from this very defect: indeed it has been the cause of all my past misfortunes; but had I been aware of the incalculable artifice, low cunning, and depravity of the T—t S——rs, I never could have become their *dupe*; and therefore I must, in common prudence, guard against similar danger. You cannot forget M. and S.; nor I F——r, or C---k. Now, in common sense, I ask who is W.???—who the principal? Though I agree with you it matters not who, provided the money is produced: but not so as to the deeds and papers to be signed; *these* must be revised by my Solicitor, and approved of, before I can set my name to them. As you advised, I have made a vow upon the subject; and when I am resolved,

I never *swerve*. You are too wise, and judge too rightly, to think otherwise.

Heaven preserve us both.

Your's, truly.

W.

November 2d., 1814.

MY DEAR MRS. S.

I REJOICE the matter is so near a conclusion!—Truly you have most industriously evinced a complete knowledge of mercantile concerns, and given me advice that opens my eyes to the imposition of the party. I will act up to what I have promised, and never again too hastily place my signature to notes of any description, nor raise money attended with such impositions.

But do you *really* think the man so great a knave? I will narrowly observe him, and follow your prudent course. I hope the time will soon come to shake them entirely off; L——d * * * * *, knows him, and places confidence in all he does!! What folly! what obstinacy!—but such it is; and

time will expose them e——y. Not an atom of principle operates in the conduct of ——.

Pray, my dear Mrs. S——, see the gentleman as to the *grand matter*, and endeavour to possess yourself of his plan. It appears strange nothing is yet concluded: if he does not satisfactorily explain, I will follow your advice, and shake them off entirely. I shall have the pleasure of calling to-morrow: to day I am prevented, which is a mortification.----My best love to Lavinia, and believe me, always,

Your most faithful Friend,

W.

Weymouth, Nov. 20th.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM sorry that circumstances prevent me from leaving Weymouth directly, and, indeed, by the letter I this day received from Mr. W**** I do not understand that he wishes it directly, or he would have mentioned; on the contrary, he says, that a Conveyancer and a Barrister are to be consulted by the Solicitor; and that then the deed is to be drawn up. The fact is, that I sent the thirty

pounds, to save a horse taken at Christ Church in execution, and I am left without the means of moving at present. I should think that it would answer no purpose to be in town until the deed is prepared, provided the parties agreed to finish the business, which seems to be in so prosperous a way. I am heartily sorry for your distresses, the more so, as I have not the means of preventing it. It is really very unfortunate to be so situated, when so little would set all right.

I write in great haste, and can only say that I am truly your's, &c.

Since I wrote the above I received a letter from Mr. P. In confidence, I inform you that he suspects Mr. W. of being connected with persons with whom he does not wish to have connection; that he had before been taken in by fair promises of a large sum, said to be ready, &c. but the parties otherwise employed it, by gambling in the stocks, &c.; the consequence of which was, that a most important concern was left unfinished. Thus, not knowing, Mr. W——'s principal or himself; and supposing he is a money agent, and connected with L——, Mr. Parker does not choose to risk the great concern totally to one chance; for the fact is, as *I know*, he has another negotiation *on foot*, and that there is little doubt of its being immediately concluded, should Mr. W.

fail in the engagement, and the negotiation is come to an end unsuccessfully. That therefore he had written to Mr. W. to say, that unless the business was done this week, it must be considered at an end.

Mr. W. wished for vouchers to be examined: that was not necessary; for he was at liberty to examine Mr. P.'s original papers, which however, he could not part with, out of his possession: thus stands the business. I do not wonder that your anxiety to *put a finishing hand to this great work*, induces you to wish me in town, but unfortunately I cannot be there directly, but as soon as I can I will; but I am sensible my presence will be wanted very soon.

Your's, truly,
W.

Jan. 1, 1815.

DEAR MRS. S.

I AM better, but cannot as yet attend much to business; my cheek is painful; colds at this season, are trying: take care of yourself, and

believe, I am in a continual study to return all I am indebted. My obligations are of a nature I can never repay, I fear; however, I may feel anxious on the subject. No letter from the great man. I have a mind to entreat an audience at the fountain head. If I conceive right, it is my opinion, the —— would feel indignant, such matters should be known. It will be a good thing for E——d, if the viper banishes himself for ever. Lord S—— has no spirit, and is of too timid a nature. Thus I consider his Lordship leaves much of his political conduct to the will and arrangement of others!

Tell J——w, if ever opportunity presents, I will serve him: if my affairs were settled, I should not covet a better servant; but I sincerely hope that he is now well off.

It would be of infinite service to the R——t if he was acquainted with the ——'s true character; many of their vexations have arisen from the insincerity of the *****. But time will do much in regard to the affair; such transactions must in the end be made public.

Cannot your Warwickshire friend give some explanation in the high quarter? I never was much noticed, and cannot intrude unauthorized; but as it is a serious matter, I will reflect a little on the subject before I absolutely determine.

Where is the Divine?—He has not called as he

promised. One disappointment rises after another; well may the adage say, that *patience* is a *virtue*; we both stand in need of it. My best love to L. Pray keep up your spirits, all things will shortly mend.

God bless you.

W.

P. S. I have read your Poem, and can see no fault; it flows on sweetly smooth:—You astonish me!!

August 17th.

DEAR MADAM,

You will, I am sure, be rejoiced to hear that I succeeded yesterday in the Court of Chancery.

I have time only to say this, and that I will, as soon as possible, get matters to bear, I hope, in your favour. I have been most unfortunately disappointed; but hope to day to get some favourable news to communicate to you; but you know that there is no driving things faster than things

will move of themselves, unless we possess a power of impelling them to our wish.

I know nothing of Melverton, but that it is within a very few miles of Warwick, the Coventry side.

I hope future prospects will make up for past misfortunes, and that the days of comfort will begin to give peace and consolation.

Your's, truly,

W.

The Talisman seems to be an honest one.

Weymouth, Oct. 14.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE the most perfect confidence in your zeal, integrity, and ability to serve your friend; I desire to say I confide the business intirely to you. The matter is not to be judged of by itself, but in relation to the very extraordinary circumstances in which I am placed, and the immense benefit it will procure, to get a sum immediately. It is the last time I flatter myself I shall need such aid.

You know every thing depends on dispatch: as the pressure of the occasion is so urgent, to say more to you would be in vain; for you well know the perfect confidence I place in you, and I am assured it is well founded; so that there is no subject that would give me less anxiety than that of the doubt of your perfect honourable and judicious conduct; but it is unnecessary to make *professions*, when *deeds* are sufficiently *convincing*.

I hope and believe that my grand business is going on very well, and also other things.

Always truly your's, &c.

WARWICK.

P. S. I perfectly agree to the terms, for the reasons above stated, and therefore act as you choose, and can do, in regard to it.

Weymouth, Sept. 23d, 1815.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE not written as soon as I intended; but I really have been so much engaged, and necessarily so, that I have never found leisure to do

what I liked best. We are all here and well; the Princess Charlotte has not been so well as usual, but has recovered, and in high spirits.

It is as usual with me, and I believe the common lot of mankind, running from one difficulty to another, and not able to overtake the object; but still the chase is amusing, and prevents the mind from preying on itself, which is often bad nourishment; when there is not a good baker, I find bread is not alone a comfort.

We have had storms here, but very little rain; the Farmers in this part of the country are obliged to send their stock three or four miles for water, which you must believe is a serious evil: but the harvest has been good, and all got in well; so that the bad seems to be balanced by the good, but those who suffer think all bad. I wish I had some good news to communicate; it is true if I had not been so often disappointed, I should believe that the tide was turned, for I have some grand promises, which seem not improbable; but I dare not rely on them. Mr. D. F—— has left me, after his seeming eagerness to assist me; but still I do not despair, and if I can communicate good news I will not delay it one post.

I hope your good daughter Lavinia, is well: tell her, I will write to her soon; but she must not expect a regular correspondence. She well knows that I value her, for her propriety of conduct and

her good qualities, which I am sorry to add are too much called into action for a person so young. I hope in the end she will have her reward, but her hopes are placed on too solid ground to need observations from me. I wish to see her happy under the protection of a man of honour and character, and that I expect to live to see.

I need not add that I have the best wishes in store, that the whole may be made complete by a change in your situation, but of a different kind! I mean the power of being protected from enemies, and of living to exercise your good talents in addition to your own and others happiness.

W.

Sunday,

DEAR MRS. S,

I FEAR I cannot call to day; indeed, I do not like to do it for many reasons, though I should be glad to see you, and will soon. I am to meet Lord Eardly to day, and will state all I think of

service to you; I shall shew his Lordship that you are of his Wilmot branch; and I hope this, and his *generous* disposition, will then show you kindness, &c.

Your's most affectionately,

W.

October 23d.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE the great pleasure to acquaint you that the business is settled here; as, in addition to your remittance, I have got a person to give cash for the note I sent Dr. L——; should it be negociated, send the *amount* as soon as possible, but, at any rate, my friend will advance the money for the *purpose*. I knew this information would give you pleasure to hear. I had written to B——, to settle with Mr. P——ro, and his letters informed me he *had done so*; but it is better on many accounts that things are as *they are*. I have only time to say this, and will write again very soon.

Your's, truly, &c.

W.

Y

February 11th.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE to acquaint you, that I could get you a very nice neat house, with ten rooms, airy situation, a small garden, and good walks. Here I think you would be able to recover your health, spirits, and be *quiet*; but as you please. I am so much occupied in various unavoidable businesses, that I cannot get so far in this damp weather; for though I am much recovered, I may say well, I have those feelings which tell me I should soon get cold again, and pains in my face and head; therefore, I am more prudent than I ever was in my life; for it is, I believe, worth preserving, if not for my own, for the sake of others. I assure you, I do not suspect what some do, as to intended delay, by Mr. P——; he is trying all he can, I believe; but he shall not sleep on the business, and it must be concluded very soon. I think I shall in a few days know the result of the negotiation now pending. Your idea is a good one, as far as I have been able to consider; but you may depend on my ***** never doing any thing they are not compelled to do. Their excuse will be, I am hostile in the greatest degree; but yet fear may operate when h——y is out of the question. They must be most completely punished, and driven from the society of honest men. In regard to the

annuity, it is a nice business, and certainly demands attention. I understand Lady H. has twice sold it, and that in consequence there are arrears of annuity withheld. This may be worth inquiry, and I will not neglect it. The Lawyers, who, nefariously, I have heard, purchased the annuity, are altogether, and will fight hard for it.— They must be met by competent resistance, and I will try all I can to get dates, on which to act; for the first thing is to be informed before a step is taken. Have you heard of any thing of Mr. W.? He has left me off; and I believe is gone off; for he has neither written or called for many weeks, though he used to be here every day almost.

In regard to the *house* which you learnt the particulars of, *there is iniquity*, and the greatest secresy is necessary; but pick up all you can concerning it. Who pretends to be the owner of it? from whom purchased, *price*, and *when*? How B——g came to be employed?—All this will bring a strange story to light; *but secresy is the word now*: but, with address, perhaps, some very important discovery may be made; but be particularly cautious of *seeming* to be very *inquisitive*, for reasons I *will state*, when I have the pleasure of seeing you.

W.

Green Street, April 2d.

DEAR MADAM,

I SHALL do myself the pleasure of paying you a visit to-morrow. I with much regard recollect the day:—It is very astonishing all you attempt to serve me is successful; I am poetizing a little; but, alas! my muse is a sorry jade, and wants some of your energetic feeling. Next to our Shakespear, I esteem you the best poet Warwickshire has to boast. Let me entreat you to publish a volume this spring! Your fame will be most grateful to myself; this you should know.—Heaven send us happier days! My respects to your excellent daughter, whose integrity of disposition is unequalled!—tell her we will have a merry dance, in Guy's porridge-pot, together, being *mighty little folks*; but your Ladyship cannot be of the party, literally *too great* a woman. Pardon my lively sallies; I am in exceeding good spirits. It is the eve of the natal day of my most faithful long-tried friend!

How oft thy strains has charm'd mine ear!

I talent, in thyself, revere!

O! may To-morrow,* ever prove;

A scene of Bliss, and Peace, and Love!

* The above letter was received on the eve of Mrs. Serres's birth-day, from his Lordship.

And may no future storms arise;
 But sailing under cloudless skies,
 Our vessel steer; and friendship guide,
 Where's known no sad tempestuous tide.

Good night!

W.

April 4th.

DEAR MADAM,

SHALL I execute the memorandums upon stamps?—I wish to do what is right.—Mr. Parker says we shall soon triumph, and that the grand concern will immediately come to an issue. Depending on his integrity, perhaps a sum might be safely obtained on a note, at six months; but I am really ashamed to hint the matter to you, after the indefatigable zeal you have evinced in my cause. Rest assured, on the recovery of my rights, yourself will be the first object of my grateful recollections. Remember me to Lavinia.

Your's, truly,

W.

February 13th.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM truly sorry that no letter came as I expected, but to-day I hope and trust it will. Whether I shall be able to get the letter sent back before the post goes out, I know not, but I will try all I can. I am convinced if B——n were frightened with a prosecution, he would give the picture up, as he has no claim to it, and he dare not meet the contest, r—gue as he is.

I have written, according to your request, to the person you mention; though, if the remittance come in time, it may be unnecessary; I *hope*, but am not certain! You will write to me on Tuesday, and——Good God! to think how grievously distressed you are, on my account; but I must not think, or I shall grow distracted! I hope your late arrest is the last billow of adversity which will assail you;—in this hope keep up your spirits, and that firmness of mind you so eminently possess. I believe the more we can bear, the more trials we must submit to meet; your's seem to be all in action. I pray that the bright side may now be turned, and that the eclipse may be nearly at an end.

Remember me to your daughter, who is, I am persuaded, a kind and affectionate one; and will, I hope, partake of your future comforts; remem-

bering that she never neglected her kind mother, in the misfortunes the injustice of others has occasioned—no fault of her own; which will be a never-ceasing comfort to her and you.

I am sorry to say, that I have reason to believe the venison was sent here by mistake:—it was not in a condition to *return*; but I will soon supply you with some game.

I am, Dear Madam,

Your's, truly,

W.

P.S. I have written to Mr. B——n, to tell him that the picture is your's, and to show it you. My compliments to your good daughter.

Be so good as to write *legibly*. You write, as I do, too fast, though *well*. I am sure you will forgive me.

May,

DEAR MADAM,

WHEN you have a larger packet than usual, sent it by M——d. I am trying all I can to get forward, but *delay* seems the order of

the day!--It must end at last:--need I say, if it does, you shall hear of it.

I have received a letter from my son, two days after the battle, in which he had as great a share as any one; and greatly distinguished himself in the first of the attack; and having, by a fortunate circumstance, 2254 men under his command, of which above 370 were killed and wounded; 36 of whom were officers. Thank God, he is well.

Dear Madam,

Your's, most sincerely,

W.

Weymouth, December 7th.

DEAR MADAM,

I WRITE a line to say that I am well, and much pleased to find that you have effected so much, which I most earnestly wish may prove the means of lasting comfort to you. I am confident you may look forward to brighter days. You have been well taught in that best of all schools, *Adversity*: so have I; and it will, in the end, be the better for us, and I trust, as the things of this life are not the only ones for us to rely

on, a good and gracious Providence guides every thing, and never deserts those who humbly rest on that aid, which no mortal power can afford. Do not let yourself be superstitious; if once you do, the phantom will grow into reality, and be the torment of your life. Be not alarmed at water; a ditch, a pond, or a trifle, will kill the greatest man. I never go with unskilful pilots, and I was as safe as in a chaise, or more so. Believe me, I am very prudent, and have never got into a scrape in my life, but one; and then I had a confidence I should escape. I have no time to say more.

W.

DEAR MADAM,

I NEVER will deceive you, nor flatter you; I will do what is honest, and tell you the truth. If I had no regard for you, I would say *nothing*; for, if I say any thing, it must be what I think. You are a *non-descript*, you possess

Z

great talents and great integrity, honor, and contempt of consequences; but you are not entitled to be the only creature alive who is to claim what *no one* can do---the power of acting right, without the control of the opinions of others, perhaps, this is not the *right word*; for, if we are conscious that we are right, we admit of no law but our own judgment:---what I mean is, that no human creature was formed to do all right, secluded from society: the being may be learned, possess genius, and be honest; but yet prejudices and delusions will stick to good, as the moss does to the oak, and rust to iron.

To say much, in a few words, I beg you to remember, that a person without riches is incapable of fighting with the world; if the connection is with the high and rich class, the consequence is, every mortification, if not in mind, in *fact*; ruin, if equality, even of honor, is attempted; contempt of favors, may injure you, determined to be obliged to no one.

Your's, truly,

W.

DEAR MADAM,

I CAN only say, that I will write to Mr. V——, and do all that can be done, as soon as possible. I send you a volume, not the best, I think; but if it will afford you any amusement, I shall be glad; and indeed, it is a duty to do it, if possible. I rely on your promise, not to let it be seen. You see you need not make excuses as to paper; this is all the scrap I can now get at.

I expect, to-morrow, to hear good news of the great concern; I am sure I can effect it, if not by one way, by another. What shall I say to Captain B——, who is a reasonable man? If you like the house, say so, and it shall be your's, for three years; but I wish to give an answer to-morrow.

Sincerely your's,

W.

P.S. Remember me kindly to Lavinia.

Memorandum of Captain B.:—Mrs. S. did not have the house.

October 30th.

DEAR MADAM,

I SHALL attend to the very judicious observations contained in your last letter. I have written to Mr. *****, who seems to be a gentleman of character and ability: and I consider it fortunate, that the business is in such hands as will insure honorable conduct. You know Confidence is a plant of slow growth in an aged breast; but I feel much inclined to give as much of it to Mr. *****, as the high opinion you entertain of him, and the respectable connexions he has been engaged in, deserve.

I hope no delay will take place in regard to the discount of two bills; as, if not received this week, I shall be exposed to very serious difficulties, and not be able to quit Weymouth:---you will exert every nerve, I feel assured, on the occasion! I am sure I need say nothing more to you.

I am, always, truly,

Your faithful,

W.

July 12th.

MADAM,

BELIEVE me, it has been quite out of my power, engaged as I am, with unavoidable business, and some of deep importance, to get so far from home, as I had fully intended. I wish, very anxiously, to know how you are, and most sincerely hope to hear you are recovering your health; then all will do well. I am sure you will give me credit for not calling myself; for with engagements, visits, and real important business, it is quite impossible now to find time to get so far from home; and one of our servants is ill, the rest hardly able to discharge their duty.

But I do hope and believe that to-morrow I may be able to make enquiry myself; and that I may have the great pleasure of hearing from you a *favourable* account of your health, &c.

I am Madam, always truly,

Your's faithfully,

W.

Pray learn to write short; you fatigue yourself with much writing:---Believe me a word *to the wise* is sufficient.

I have the pleasure to hear much said of *Junius*. I sincerely hope your valued uncle, will, though deceased, be the source of honour to you.

March 22d.

DEAR MADAM,

HOWEVER I have been inclined to think Ladies not fit to enter into detail of business, I must confess I consider you as a complete exception; and I admit that a perfect knowledge of the matter and judgment, on the execution, prove it as well applied. It is therefore, of course, that I feel perfectly safe under your direction of it, in all its parts; for, as you very properly observe, politicians keep different agents for different occasions; and it is not every person that can possess requisite foresight.

I sincerely hope that this change of weather may be beneficially felt by you, and restore you to health; and that other circumstances may unite to remove the anxiety which has preyed on your spirits so long.

Mr. W. P—— I have not lately seen, though I have heard from him. I understand he has had a slow fever, but is recovering. I have no reason to think he has in any degree neglected the great concern; and I flatter myself that very soon it will be concluded in a most happy manner. I am sure none will be more rejoiced than you will be, when this event arrives.

Has Mr. J—— said any thing to your daughter, about her music? Time passes rapidly, and the opportunity of improvement likewise; which, considering there are, as you say, real talents, should not be; otherwise, it would be to throw time away in a vain pursuit.---With best Compliments, I am always, truly,

Dear Madam,

Your's,

W.

August 16th.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE just received, by a strange accident, the inclosed: I am trying all I possibly can do, but have been cruelly disappointed.

I will not enter into particulars as it will be of no avail : trust me, I am endeavouring all I can do.

Your's, &c.

W.

June 12th.

DEAR MADAM,

THE disappointments I have suffered, cannot be described ; and they give me the most sincere concern, because they have prevented me from being of any service to you. I am trying all I can, but delays are continually arising, to oppose difficulties ; but it tends to no good purpose to complain, or to look backward, but to try, by all rational means, to get on.

Mr. B—— I called on, but could not find him : he will not be hastened by any one, I fear, though I trust he will not delay the work, which I shall be most happy to see appear before the

world, because I am confident it will prove a great pleasure to you.

Your's, sincerely,

W.

I am very anxious on your account, and wish to see you, but have been prevented calling; to-morrow I anticipate the pleasure.

June 6th,

DEAR MADAM,

I AM sorry that I am not yet able to give you any certain account of the progress made; much must depend on the measures of my opponents, and I presume they are not idle. I have not got on in the grand business; indeed, I have no opportunity of seeing any one; I did, however, meet your brother: he called here, but we had no conversation on your subject; the time he staid here was much taken up in country and public business: he is gone away for a week or more.

2 A

It is a very distressing thing that I am without the means of attending to a great many bills, all together to a large amount, which have been left at my house during my absence. Mr. S—— writes very often, and Mr. J——; I do not answer them, for I really do not know what to say to them; to promise, and not to perform, is making bad worse. All the expectations I had such good reasons to depend on, have failed, and thus the difficulties increase. This is a subject I wish I could set at rest; but at present it cannot be done. All that remains is to wait in hopes of a favourable change; but hope is become a threadbare garment, and does not keep one warm. Time is a great operator for good and bad, and sometimes does wonders: I wish he was in the humour now to do something memorable and comfortable. If beauty and magnificence would make comfort, it would be here; but the body without the soul is a poor possession.

You see I am not in a very good humour; but yet I am not inclined to despond, and I never find an heavy hour. My best remembrances to your good daughter, and believe me, always, &c.

W.

June 3d.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE but little time to write; but I just snatched a moment to say, I have had no more difficulties than I have surmounted; and hope the determination I have taken will prove of service to bring matters to a crisis: at least, I shall not have it to say I have neglected the trial. I am sure it has not a little puzzled the party, who must feel that the danger presses alarmingly on them. I cannot get any aid here, and indeed, I am prevented from seeing any one, I suppose from fear of my obtaining my object, as to the loan.

I believe I shall succeed, in town, after all. I have had all the bills I gave, sent in, and laid on my table, protested in my absence; they amount to between £200 and £300; and what to do with them I know not. This is unlucky, and it might, had it been thought of, been prevented. If I hear any thing of consequence, I will inform you, but for some days I expect nothing. It is a very unpleasant state of suspense; but, like other misfortunes, must be submitted to. Time is the grand remedy for most evils. All I can do is to wish you all comfort, and, in time, happiness.

Your's, &c.

W.

Weymouth, October 3d.

DEAR MRS. S.

How I wished for you last evening!--The fine rolling of the waters would have inspired your Muse to a second description of a storm at sea, so well described in your volume of Poems. Nature is exceedingly beautiful!--How much do persons lose, who are regardless of the beauties of nature!--Their want of enjoyment must be lamentable, who do not examine the effects of created things! Of late, I have had little good:--one disappointment after another casts up, to make trial of my patience; and my spirits are unusually depressed. I believe my bed-chamber is too airy, at my time of life:--to sleep below stairs is disagreeable; but one must put up with many inconveniencies at such places, as my family is large, which occasions difficulty as to our being lodged exactly as we could wish. Pray believe all things are going on well, as to the grand concern; thus, in a very short time, your trials will be over, and tranquillity and comfort reward your past afflictions. I request to hear from you by return of post. Have you seen Dr. L-----? Kindly do as you have promised me, when he *next calls*. He admires your sincerity, and will, I doubt not, feel a pride in interesting

himself as your steady friend. His manners are agreeable, and his character in life, I am told, excellent.

You have not sent me the letter you so obligingly said you would:---to-morrow's post I shall be anxious for. I received the packet safe; but I fancy the post-master here is a little surprised at its size, and the dimensions of those I have lately been in the habits of receiving. Curiosity is a mighty busy person, in other people's affairs; and I plainly perceive it is not sleeping here!--But, guessing people's thoughts, I smile and pity; often regretting, that the generality of mankind are so narrow-minded:---but reason is ever dozing, when suspicion governs; and because people cannot learn one's affairs; they insinuate falsehoods. I am out of temper, and must entreat your pardon for this scrawl.

Accept my affectionate and friendly regard, both for Lavinia and yourself, and believe me.

Always, your's,

W.

Six o'Clock, Evening.

MY DEAR MRS. S.

I WRITE in haste; but I must give you the account of the reception I had :---a most gracious one, and I never liked the P—— R—— better. He reminded me so greatly of yourself; his eyes are very like your own; he smiles as you do; and, all together, considering, that his Royal Highness is light-complexioned, and yourself a brunette, yet there is, certainly, an amazing resemblance! I suppose the world, with its busy folly, has exaggerated our friendship; for I fancied the P——ce looked at me significantly, but in the best humour imaginable :---perhaps, he was amazed to see me; and, considering my deprivations, he might well wonder at the courage to present myself; but I obeyed your advice. P—— C—— is too like him. He shall some day know your integrity, and how you have been falsified and oppressed.

We are rather out of humour to-day here :--- I have been writing to Lord O—— my mind lately; and his Lordship is offended, and *some others* also! J—— is a diabolical villain; and I have resolved now to make his duplicities, not to say dis——ties, known to the world, in a very

short season, in order that others may profit by the experience my injuries have bestowed.

Miss V—— said, lately, “No one wishes you better, Lord Warwick, than I do; but I fear if you go to the Castle, it will bring on misfortunes again.”—I have some penetration left; thus I well understood the tenor of her sentiments; but it is natural that she should lean to Lord O——; however, my house and table has ever been open to herself and friends. She is, in some things, very good-natured; but all the relatives of Lady ***** are of one opinion, and obstinately prejudiced, saying the best one can say on the subject. Good evening.

I am, faithfully, your's,

W.

DEAR MRS. S.

How is your side? Do not study so much; relax a little: you want air, and gentle exercise; your habits are too sedentary. I hope Lavinia is better; my anxious wishes every hour of the day seek you; I should be guilty of ingratitude were it otherwise.

In regard to the Duke of ———, your own good sense will direct your sentiments. Great people should be well understood, ere they receive our unlimited confidence; and were I to dictate, I should advise caution, until you see their real drift. Recollect, you are mistress of many acquirements, and that may be the inducements of their attention. Yet I much doubt: my sex are wily serpents, many of them, and never lift their head till they are sure of their prey. Some hidden purport lies in embryo; but time, and your discretion, will penetrate the secret. Am I not a most excellent *Mentor*? Methinks I see you smile at this part of my letter: well you may, for I have no great pretensions to wisdom, or what the Scotch so greatly admire under the denomination of *foresight*. The truth is, I find so little sincerity, that I tremble for others. The candour your disposition so abounds with, and the quick and lively talents you possess, subjects you to the deceptions of mankind, as you are above suspicion, and believe all the world better than they are, and act accordingly. I have reason to hope the tide is turning in my favour, if so,

Its bounties gliding to my bower,
Shall render tranquil every future hour.

Receive this as the grateful aspiration of,

W.

DEAR MADAM,

IF I have not called it is because I have so much business, both public and private, to transact; besides, being commonly kept at home too late to go so far; and I have had a swelled face, and symptoms of rheumatism in my head, which has prevented me from exposing myself much lately; these are the true reasons of my not calling; *indeed* I could not, for it takes a long time to go and return from Westminster, having no house in town. Believe me, when I assure you that I remain precisely as I was, as to my opinion and regard: assure Lavinia of it likewise completely, for she is a deserving young woman, and I wish I could see her married to a worthy man, who would appreciate her merit.

W.

August 15,

DEAR MADAM,

I SEND the inclosed, in the hopes it will be of service; but I am so much distressed, that

unless things turn out well, I shall not be able to take it up, I fear. I say this, because I have been disappointed in two things, on which I had every reason to depend; but I do not despair, and hope for better times.

I doubt if I could send you such a servant as you would like; but I know one very steady good woman, for whom I have a regard;* you might see her, but pray do not engage her unless you think she will perfectly suit you.

I will write when more at leisure soon: I am quite well; and the air of this place perfectly suits me. I take more exercise than common, and am never tired, or would not do it. Remember me kindly to Lavinia, who I expect to hear is much improved, for I know her talents and application a necessary expedient to secure perfection. Your black cat I should be very glad to see at a game of romps. If you had saved more, I should have requested one.

Your's truly,

W.

Pray make my compliments and thanks to Mrs. G— for her letter.

* This person was attendant on the first Lady Warwick, an aged woman, who knew Dr. Wilmot, the Editor's uncle.

DEAR MADAM,

I SHALL wish the £500 deposited at Messrs. Drummonds, but will write to-morrow.

The post was not come in when my family went to church, at Christ Church, to-day; I therefore send all I can write, the rest next post.

W.

Christ Church, Feb. 23,

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE read your letter and think it *wise*, and therefore, though I burnt it, shall not forget its contents. I shall set out from hence, but cannot be in town before to-morrow night, or Friday morning at soonest; therefore, it will be Saturday before I can call, as I am obliged to be with the *Man of Business* on the 25th, and with my sister, either in town, or at Richmond Park, with my brother, as soon as I get to town, or next day.

I have received a letter from the Rev. Mr. G——; making a query, relative to the *right* of presentation, manors, levy, and clerical questions; fortunately, *one word* settles the business, that *I* have *the right, actually and specifically secured* when the estate was sold. This is *conclusive*, and will be so to Mr. G——. He says, he is to be in town the 1st of March, on which day the money will be paid at his banker's, or, if I required it, sooner. I have replied, that I would not give him unnecessary trouble, and that the 1st of March would be time enough; and so I presume it will be then paid to you there. I shall have great satisfaction in saving your eyes from the incessant and dangerous employment of them, in the continual writing you have entered on, I fear *too much*. But let future prudence make up for it, and I sincerely hope Mr. W—— will be able to report a very favourable change, when every anxiety is removed from your mind, and you once more begin to enjoy the blessings of *tranquillity*. I make no professions, because you well know I feel much interested in your welfare, and therefore they are unnecessary. Assure Lavinia of my regard for her; I am convinced she has proved herself, under these severe trials, a good, kind, and affectionate daughter. I do not know what I shall think of London; here we are, in a perfect *solitude*, which I

do not dislike; but it is not right to indulge in it too much.

Your's, truly,

W.

Melbrook Place, March 12,

DEAR MADAM,

IF I do not write, it is because I have nothing good to say; I have not received any of the remittances I expected, and therefore cannot do what I wish so much to do, for your immediate relief. The good news as to the grand business you have heard of, from Mr, Parker, is true; and I have the great satisfaction to consider it as concluded. But a few days delay as to signing, sealing, and delivering, you know is necessary. Mr. P—— could have no authority to say how I should vote on the question, as I am one of the *few* who endeavour to *obtain information* before I *decide*; and I do assure you, that though I have a strong bias to my opinions, I do not know yet how far I shall be decided by them in Parliament.

If you can do, as I and others must do, wait a little time, all will, I make no doubt, turn out well: but no one knows what the next day may produce. The public mind has been greatly agitated; but, like the sea, will get tranquil, I trust, soon, though never free from the danger of a fresh storm: I hope it will produce the good effect of purifying the air; and I am sure we need not fear the *want* of due *ventilation*.

I hope some of your prejudices against ***** are removed: a long voyage is not to be soon made; and the rocks, shoals, &c. are constantly in the way; besides storms, there are calms, and stupid and idle associates; therefore the truth is, it is a wonder the vessel *ever anchors* in the desired harbour.

I think it wrong to remain here, absent from my post; therefore, I shall quit it in a few days; when, as soon as the attendance on public business, and the grand private one, I am, I hope, finishing to my entire satisfaction, will allow, I will call on you, and shall be happy to find things mending, and that you will soon be released from your residence in ***** Square.

Remember me to Lavinia.

Your's, truly,

W.

June. 3d.

DEAR MADAM,

It is so bad a day, I fear I shall not have it in my power to wait on you; for I must not expose myself to wet, and I am hardly well of a severe cold. I am very glad you have so much succeeded, as to the *picture*, which, I make no doubt, is a valuable possession. I am sincerely concerned, that, at this moment, it is quite out of my power to have the *great satisfaction* of attending to your wish: if I do succeed, and obtain that, for which I have reason to believe I cannot long *look in vain*, I shall directly transmit it to you: my inability prevents me from saying or doing more, of which you are, I am sure, perfectly convinced. I may receive the letter to-day, and expect it; but it may *not* come.

I have just received a most unpleasant account, of a very serious accident, which has befallen my friend, Mr. V——. His mill is broke, and himself seriously hurt, in his legs; and having, before, a wound in one, I dread the consequences. It is a cruel story:---he had the immediate prospect of a fine income, from the paint he had discovered; and he has an amiable wife, and a fine family:---no one was more happy in their society;---I fear the worst of consequences.

I cannot find, in the *Morning Post*, what you allude to, concerning Sir G—— M—— V——, and a nobleman; it is not in Thursday's, nor Wednesday's, that I can discover. I have taken the liberty of sending a piece, which will make you a gown, I believe. It has the merit, or demerit, I hear, of coming yesterday from Paris. If you like the quality of it, I can get another for you, or Lavinia, though I hope she will not get a taste for French, in preference to British, stuffs. By the bye, I hear there is not one pretty woman [French] in Paris---dress abominably, and not to be compared with our country-women:---so say even the French who have lately been at Paris.

Your's, truly,

W.

April 7th,

DEAR MADAM,

I CONTRIVED to call here, but am not able to stay, I fear, till your return. I do not comprehend what you say of B—— or H——.

Neither, I believe, have acted as you suppose; at least, they had no authority from me of *any kind*. H—— desired me to say he was ready to meet Sir G. J——, or Mr. *****, to confound those people, who told him what he related to me: this I have distinctly stated to Sir G——. I really do not know what he means; but I have given him, what I think, is a right answer; and I shall not trouble myself to repeat to him, what I have so often said on the subject. The fact is, it frequently happens, that there are wheels operating, and *not seen*; it may be so in the present instance.

I consider it to be perfectly right to get rid of the concern, and your opinion coincides with my own, that the present opportunity is a good one. It is a farce to think a Chancery-suit is necessary. The Contract is broken, or it is not; this is the only question:---if it is not, I am unable to stir; if it is, I need but take my own discretion. I have suffered much already, in not having gained what I had a right to expect; and the uncertainty, to say no worse of it, I am still exposed to, not knowing *what* to *depend* on in future. I am in a very disagreeable situation, from which I am determined to extricate myself.

I will, if possible, call to-morrow, about ten o'clock; but do not depend on me---if I can, I will; but I have some engagements, that may

prevent me. I am very glad you have taken an airing this fine day, though it seems as if a storm was brewing. Your bird has sung a delightful song to me, in your absence.

Your's truly,

W.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE not a moment to do any thing, as I must pack up things, to send, by a servant, to the country, to-day, for my family. I have, thank God, got so well as to see my sister yesterday, but am not able to stir out to any distance; yet, if I take care, I shall soon be well. Your illness adds to all my difficulties and distresses of other sorts.

Every thing, it is true, as to the great business, goes on as well as I can desire it; but, like all other things, must have *its time*. To tell you, I have not *one farthing*, or if I get one, it must be by means unknown to me;---this is the real state of the case; and, distressing as it is to me to say

so, I must tell the truth, as it occasioned the delay of the business, as to stamps, &c.

D—— says, that there is a house would suit you, near your present one. I would advise you to take it, if you like it: these are not times to go off on trifles.

I can say no more, not having a moment to spare.

Your's, truly,

W.

December 15th.

DEAR MADAM,

You are not quite correct when you attribute my ceasing to write to ill-health, or to want of interest, &c. The fact is, I never wish to communicate bad news to friends; and, as to good, I have none to send. It would be no satisfaction to you, to hear the detail of deceptions and disappointments, which must, were I to write, form the sole subjects of communication.

As to health and spirits, they do not fail me: excepting a cold, I have enjoyed perfect health; and I take my usual walks, and ride to Portland, whenever the weather is tolerably favourable. I assure you, I take very good care of myself.

* * * * *

Your's, truly,

W.

June 1st.

DEAR MRS. S.

BEING obliged to wait the return, from the country, of two persons, on whom I depend, and from whom I expect to receive, what may enable me to be more my own master, I will write or call to-morrow; if possible, the latter; but I am so very necessarily and continually engaged, that I beg you will not blame me, should it be quite out of my power to do it. I trust you will forget, as much as possible, all unnecessary apprehensions, and believe that better times are in

store for you. It is our daily duty to be submissive and resigned; then we may expect that Providence will assist us. I know you do not need a sermon; but pray make one for me yourself; and believe that we are not placed here to despair.

My son was ordered to storm St. Sebastian; but failed, on account of the water not being run out, so that he could get no further.

Your's, truly,

W.

December 16th.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM truly glad that you are recovering, as I am confident that the tide is *now turned in your favor*, as it unquestionably is in *mine*. No man alive can be defended by his *wits* alone, without a firm confidence in religious principles:

with this aid, all the ills of life he may set at defiance. I do not pretend to be more wise than my neighbour, but I well know that we are miserable creatures, with all our pride of talents, &c. No man who feels as he ought to do, can be vain: if he possesses a little more than the common share of wisdom, it should teach him to be more humble; for between perfection and any created being, what an immeasurable distance lies!--and the more we know, the less we possess, in comparison of what we might know. Life is a trial:--it is absurd to consider it as a state of happiness; but it is, if well conducted, the only road to certain, and never-ending comfort. Never despair; for blessings come as unexpectedly as misfortunes; but both, if properly appreciated, are benefits:--the one the foundation of gratitude--the other the proof of fortitude and faith. Trust to Providence, and despise petty misfortunes. Depend on it, your cup is full, and will run over, and give room for future comfort.

I make no apology for not calling, well knowing you will give me credit for the wish and intention; the storms, rain, and eternal private and public business, prevent me from doing what I should most wish. I hope to see you quite happily placed out of the reach of the great, and their deceitful ways; contenting yourself with those rational employments you may command, and doing all

the good your ardent and well directed mind leads to:— including your excellent daughter in this wish.

Your's truly,

W.

Tuesday.

DEAR MRS. S.,

You will be glad that I have voted as you wished.* I am not sure I did *right*; at best, it is an awful experiment: however, if I am wrong, the right thing will be done; though had it depended on my single vote, it would have required strong nerves to decide on a question that has two fair sides: experiment it may be called, though the supporters of each opinion, say there is none, and that it is certain they are right. It is wonderful, how much ingenious men can do to disguise the truth; and those who have neither firm minds nor integrity, are sure to deviate from the right road. Many Lords who voted and were strongly for the Bill now, would have been against it when younger.

* The Earl of Warwick gave his vote *against* the Corn Bill.

Though I was four years in Scotland, I staid not long enough there to obtain, what is so well known there, the *second sight*. I am glad the business is disposed of; I shall now have time to attend to other more personal business. I can with pleasure assure you, the grand concern is going on perfectly well, and that it will be finished *very soon*. This is a great comfort, and you may rely on it.

Compliments to Lavinia. Believe me always truly your's,

W.

Monday,

DEAR MRS. S.

I SEND you some of the verses you requested; I blush that they are not more worthy of your attention: you appreciate my endeavours to afford you amusement too highly. Happy shall I be to see your last essay, the moment you can indulge me with a sight of it.

In spite of adversity your sun shines most bril-

liantly. I admire the fortitude that enables you to improve your mind amidst such care. But I predicted in early life what you would be; your late superior uncle, my very dear friend, proved his penetration, by choosing you for his companion. I never flatter; your merit exceeds my capability, were I so inclined.

Your's,

W.

DEAREST MADAM,

AN exceeding heavy pressure of public business has prevented my calling, which occasions exceeding regret. I hope I need not impress this upon your belief, as you should well know my sentiments. I have not been idle as to the grand concern; but my hands are literally tied behind me, the fatal deeds so operate; but I hope time and patience will conquer. Your

2 D

letter was more than important: I will see you early to-morrow and discuss the matter:

By such conveyance 'tis not wise to speak;

"*The walls have ears!*" and servants construe Greek.

I really believe I have many spies, where I should find sincere friends! But such is the world! A man divested of fortune is ever subject to the most impertinent curiosity; and it is a miserable truth that I am not at all ***** in my own house, and from my privations, and, the limited state of my finances, no better than a dependant in the midst of my *****! I very often lament this exceedingly, on *many* accounts; but none more than the several interruptions it occasions, in regard to my enjoying the society of real friends. Alas! experience has afforded me a serious lesson, that a man should never entrust to r——s his pecuniary concerns! My situation should be a warning to persons of rank, generally, never to place their signature too hastily to deeds of any nature.

My best love to your dear daughter,

Your's, ever,

W.

East Cowes, Isle of Wight.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM truly concerned to hear you have been ill; and the anxiety of your mind always preys so much on your health, that I fear you have no *immediate chance* of perfect recovery; but pray remember that we must all pay our taxes for benefits received; and when you consider how many talents you possess, what a mind you enjoy, &c. you must be contented to find that you pay double tax for these benefits! This is *fine philosophy*; but, after all, we must settle the account ourselves. As to Dr. L———b, I can assure you, although a man of ability, he has been driven from the society where he was much valued; as his character *is* a disgrace to any who associate with him.* Impudence is not wanting; but I do assure you he dare not make his appearance at W———k, where he is well known! I am sorry he called, as to your publication, for no good will come from it, but the contrary: I speak from perfect knowledge of the person. How you can get rid of him is the question; but you must contrive to do it;

* Lord Warwick meant politely.

for you cannot be in his company and not censured!

I shall be glad when I am able to do all I can for your benefit, and I think you may look forward to times such as your actions merit. The present are most trying and distressing. I am glad Lavinia is well; assure her of my friendship, and regard; but this is not necessary, I hope, to do. We are here but in a bad inn; no rooms to sit in but one. Not a lodging to be had in the Island. Where we shall go, or what will be our plan, I know not. We have a large assembly of our family, Lord and Lady Clonmell, and expect Colonel Greville; but where they will be lodged is a question.

The people here are very fond of sailing. Lord Craven has three yachts; Lord Grantham, one; Mr. Blackford, another, &c. &c. &c.:---so that, if I chose, I might live on the water. It is what I once much liked; but this passion has abated; and I only go on it now for business or necessity; and begin to think, with Johnson, that "being in a ship is being in prison, with the chance of being drowned!" I must say, I am in no degree afraid, in consequence of your prejudice against it; especially with your *talisman* in my pocket. I will inform you as

soon as we are fixed somewhere, which must be soon.

God bless you!

Your's, truly,

W.

August.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM perfectly aware of the artifices of the world; but, I do assure you, on the present occasion, I have nothing to fear from it. The fact is, R——rs is a rogue, and he wished to avail himself of a trick to get himself noticed, as a man of consequence, by interfering where he had no authority: but it will not do. The party which applied to me, on the soap concern, is as respectable a one as any in Bristol, and not known to R——ts. The patent is not worth a rush; though it is mine, not V———'s. My soap depends on its own intrinsic merits, and no one can get it.

As to the letter, you wrote to Mr. ———, I

am sorry you did, because I do not want the aid, being sure of the loan; and because I do not wish to be under *obligation* to the *parties*; and I should be sorry that they should think I am privy to the application. Whatever you may believe, I am confident the loan will be very soon raised; and this morning I had an unsolicited offer of it, not from any money-lender and broker;---but I do not need it, as the negociation begun must very soon be happily terminated. I am perfectly sensible of your zeal and wish to serve me; and I thank you sincerely.

W.

January 18th.

DEAR MADAM,

I HOPE that the business in regard to the R——, will be settled with Mr. ——, *in a few days*. The grand inquiry is, if it is desirable to remain in town, or to *retire* to the country;---to be buried there, until better prospects arise; or to remain in town, equally a recluse, and in danger every step you tread. You seem to be like a bird

brought from a foreign clime, whose beautiful plumage serves but to attract attention, though it will not afford one genial breeze of comfort, but is left to shiver in the cold! I hope this is not too true a comparison!--I know, however, a person may be as retired in London as in the country; and, perhaps, on many accounts, is the best place of residence for you; but still you must seriously weigh both, and make your decision, when a fit opportunity offers. Your talents can, undoubtedly, do much to render you independent; but so to injure your eyes, by study, gives me inexpressible sorrow. I am proud of your fame, but deplore the injury your health sustains by such close application to study. Why I write all this, I know not, for it says nothing *new* to you;---it may, however, prove I am not indifferent as to your welfare, and something may arise, when least expected. I shall be truly happy to hail the event; and you may depend on my doing what I have it in my power, and consider myself, in conscience, *bound*, to do, to *promote it*.

I hope that your good daughter is well, and that you are recovered much from your distressing illness.

Believe me,

Your faithful and affectionate friend,

W.

Wednesday Night.

MY DEAR MRS. S.,

As I was sitting alone in my little study, the period of your last visit to Warwick Castle, with your uncle, seemed revived in my remembrance, as if it had happened but yesterday. How calm and intelligent your features that day appeared! And how your observations on the pictures pleased your uncle and myself! Then, it never entered my imagination, that you was to be almost the *only true friend* in my trials; and it is singular, also, that a Wilmot was my maternal ancestor in the reign of James, from whose family branch and blood you are, on one side of the question, descended: no wonder then that such true regard unites our friendship! And you are too very like one of *my aunts*, and have the most surprising similarity to a Portrait of John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, at Warwick Castle; especially the nose and upper part of the face: but, take the whole, you are like the ***** also. If the past prosperous days of my fate could be recalled, how very different should I act to what I have done! True happiness would be my endeavour, not delusive air-built castles, the fatal *ultimatum* of too great submission to worldly ambitious cus-

toms! Your uncle pitied the follies of high life, and proudly retired from the world, rich in integrity and in independence! He used to say, "Great men are seldom enviably situated; pomp or worldly pageantry can never compensate for lost happiness, of a domestic nature." Good night, be ever what you are,

W.

MADAM,

I SHOULD have written, had I not intended to be in town at the meeting of Parliament, but am unavoidably prevented. I am truly concerned that I have not been able to do any thing for your relief, (so situated as you are through friendship for myself); it is not from want of exertion on my part, but the means are not at my disposal yet, though I expect daily some change; and I have no doubt of final success, as my *great business* is going on to my entire satisfaction, and I really think it will end well. This will be a great satisfaction to me, as it will be the means of

serving essentially those I wish to aid and render amends to. I say little, because it is unnecessary, to those who are acquainted with me. Patience is the only remedy; and a confidence in Providence will enable us to bear up against all misfortunes. I hope to hear you are getting strength. Your mind is too active to give you an equal chance with others; but you must endeavour in the first place to get health, then every other benefit may arise, by Providence and perseverance. But why need I instruct *you*? I am going to church some miles off, therefore must stop.

Your true friend,

W.

My compliments to your good daughter.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM very much pleased to see with what activity and ability you have conducted a business so new to you. I consider it very fortunate, I have met with a gentleman, who seems in every respect the one I should have chosen to undertake the

matter: but your kindness is what, I fear, I shall not be able, as I ought to pay: however, I live in hope, and hourly recal your friendship to remembrance, amidst my misfortunes esteeming myself rich upon the whole, possessed of your regard. *Fortitude* is your motto, and *gratitude* shall be mine. I have received the *talisman*, and shall act as your good sense points out, immediately. I hope the poetry will amuse; I much doubt it, but I have obeyed you injunctions.—How is Lavinia? I wish I could take a peep at you.

Your's, ever,

W.

Weymouth, Nov. 2d.

DEAR MRS. S.

I AM perfectly aware that when two persons have not confidence in each other, suspicion is a word that covers the ground, of course; on the present occasion I see no reason for it; the interest of each party seems united: but I know Mr. P—— has been before disappointed of a

very large sum. I will leave Weymouth as soon as I can by any means raise the power of doing so; *but at present I cannot!* Distressing circumstances have constantly arisen to prevent me. Mr. Shaw says, "he could negotiate a bill; and send me the balance." Why should I not try him? I think he is a man of veracity, and may be relied on as such. I will do all I can. I hope, by some fortunate event, which often comes like evils, when least expected, that I shall be enabled to be in town *in time*, and that I shall have the great satisfaction to see *your rising planet* in its full meridian, affording you its beams of *comfort*: though rather poetical, it is *my sincere* wish. I have the great pleasure to think that now the *grand business* is brought to a conclusion, and that all will wind round to good, after the most cruel and long continued absence of fortune. It has however taught us we are not invulnerable, and that adversity is a good school, and brings us to a right way of thinking, better than *prosperity*; but a mixture is perhaps the thing to be desired. I have neither time nor paper fortunately for the discussion.—Remember me to L——, who, I trust, will be ever a sincere, kind, and good daughter, to her excellent mother.

Your's truly,

W.

January 1st.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM truly glad to hear you find yourself better; and I sincerely hope these very unpleasant attacks, you have lately been subject to, will give way, and you will regain that state of ease, which quiet and composure can alone secure to you. You have had more on your mind than your spirits could support; and it was not possible for any one to bear up against the complicated pressure of your situation. But you may, I trust, look forward to the approaching time, when you will return to the exercise of those talents, from which, as an amusement, rather than a business, you may derive a never-failing source of satisfaction. The mind *must not* always feed on itself. There is no getting rid of *ideal* monsters;---*real* ones seldom stop our progress in life; and if met are not formidable. I met with some lines, well-expressed, and send them to arouse you.

I was, to-day, at the Prince Regent's levee. By some strange accident, I was, the second time the first person spoken to. The P—— was seemingly in good spirits and gracious.

I heard, yesterday, from my son, in Spain or France. He had, a second time, his horse killed

under him, by a cannon-shot. You will say, this is an *Irish one*. I mean, that his horse was shot at the battle of Salamanca, and a second at Vittoria. Thank God, Charles was well!

I am,

Dear Madam,

Your faithful,

W.

April 3d.

DEAR MRS. S.

THE intention of visiting Warwick is not given up; and I consider, I am really entitled to my castle, since the £26,000, borrowed of the trust, is virtually paid, from their being so greatly indebted, at this period to myself;—certainly, a fair and equitable balance of accounts should be struck:—time enough has been wasted in the business. The Castle furniture must now be my own, although the T——t keep possession. From their being in my debt near £80,000, (and which

must be accounted for), a plea cannot be set up, that the said £26,000, for which they hold the possession of Warwick Castle, furniture, &c. is not reimbursed. Law! law!--But *equity*, and the unerring judgment and integrity of Lord Eldon will very shortly remedy the evil. Equity will prevail at last, and my suffering creditors and friends be righted!

I wish you could accompany me: your courage and spirit would be of infinite service, amidst the h—s that I shall encounter;---h—s that have devoured my very v—ls, under the specious mask of f——p, and occasioned all the calamities of my life! Rest assured, the kind assistance you have so generously granted, will enable me to effect a most material object. I shall not mind being a prisoner for a few weeks:--I can pass my time very satisfactorily. The library and paintings, and surrounding scenery, will contribute a calm and rational amusement. Beloved place! my very soul feels elated at the idea of again beholding the beauties of my ancient domain. And now conceive the gratitude I feel, from your so kindly lending me the needful; but it shall be, hereafter, faithfully reported to the County, who will love you, my dear Mrs. S., for my sake,

Your's, ever,

W.

Head Quarters, Warwick Castle,

May 29th.

DEAR MADAM,

HERE I am, and all goes on well, wholly. The place improved beyond imagination, and nothing to be compared with it!--I augur every good from the bold step I have taken: it must bring all to an issue. I have only time to give you this information,

Your's truly,

W.

P.S. My trusty servants wept for joy, to see me. In general, I have not an enemy. My opponents would, as soon, have seen the devil; and some, from long faces, will be miserable:---I wish I could see them. I know no one will rejoice more than you and Lavinia. I have only time to write, therefore,

Truly, your's, &c.

W.

Warwick Castle, Monday.

DEAR MADAM,

By remaining here I puzzle my opponents completely, but I wait the order of the Court, which is not yet given. I feel confident that I shall ultimately succeed. I am sorry the Chancellor is confined; I have much confidence in his honour and rectitude of thinking.

I believe all are at a loss to know why I am here; but I have so far the pleasure of not being interrupted with troublesome visitors, who ask impertinent questions. I have not been able to do any thing for my own benefit; and indeed less capable than when in town, for I see no one, nor is there any one here who could assist me. I have heard, with much regret, that Lord B—— has been so ill advised as to get Sir A—— P—— to appear, to speak for him: such a blunder I never heard of, and it is quite inexcusable. Had he no friends to warn him of the folly; to say no worse of it? Such a voluntary piece of insanity I never heard of; the C——t should not have permitted it. You see Sir Samuel Romilly defies the opposite party to prove that even the C——t can order me to quit the Castle. I have done no one act of authority, so I am to be considered either as a visitor or a trespasser; if the latter, to be sued for damages. What a silly piece of business!

I fear you will not be able to read this writing ; the paper is so very bad ; but I shall not use it any more. I sincerely hope Lavinia and you will be able to struggle with your great oppressions. I have been cruelly disappointed ; and therefore all my exertions have failed of being of any service ; but do not despair, for good may come sooner than it is expected.

Your's, truly,

W.

May 3d,

MY DEAR MADAM,

I AM exerting myself every way possible to meet the demands of my honest creditors ; but I find great difficulty in the accomplishment of my plans. The T——t appear determined to oppose me ; thus, I shall have to wade through a sea of perplexities ! However, keep up your charming spirits, and do me the justice to believe I am more than anxious to see you placed in the sphere of life you were born for ; and that I am bound in duty as well as conscience, to promote your wel-

fare all in my power. A time will, I trust, shortly arrive; to open the world's eyes to your injuries and merits. Nature did not bestow such abundant talents for nothing! Your generosity, good nature, and sincerity, are beyond the usuality of things; but I must not flatter, or you will be angry: and that would create in my breast the most lively concern. Heaven only knows where I should have been, but for your friendship: I should have been spiritless and broken-hearted long ere this! Thus I owe you more than I can repay. And, believe me, my heart is impressed with the finest sentiments of gratitude.

O! doubt not that your talents claim
The proudest laurels for your fame;
So Shakespear lived! His wit refin'd,
Like your's it charm'd human kind.

How dare I scribble poetry to you! But I know not how it is; for I seem as readily to betray my faults as to endeavour to merit your continued esteem.

W.

Warwick Castle, Sunday,

DEAR MRS. S.

I WISH you was here; with what delight you would behold the dear native scenes of your infancy! Methinks I behold you such as you was when last at the Castle, with your late excellent uncle, my very dear friend. It is impossible to describe the beauty of this place: but it is now a body without a soul! A mass of magnificence and taste, and deserted! I hope this will not long be the case. Surely, however, it requires more than common patience to bear the continual disappointments and delays; but this you feel as well as I do, therefore I need not describe it, assured you sympathize in all my sorrows, too keenly. But I trust the hour is approaching that will render us both happy. I send this by trusty C.

Your's truly,

W.

*Warwick Castle,
Wednesday.*

MY DEAR MRS. S.

As I told you yesterday, no person is admitted to my presence, or allowed to enter the Castle, excepting the Deputy Lieutenant of the County, Mr. Wilmot. Is this to be tolerated? Do acquaint Sir Samuel Romilly, and obtain his opinion, privately, for a line of conduct necessary that I should observe. I can trust your fidelity in the matter;---you will make known to me his exact opinion, which will prove of high importance. I am critically situated; for, by these unexpected measures, I am prevented from doing every thing I had otherwise intended!---I know you will lament these indignities, and admire, equally with myself, the bold indecency of the p---s concerned. But a high tribunal shall redress my injuries:---I will lay the subject before the House of Lords; as it will be an act of justice, not only to myself, but also to posterity; and, as your late uncle used to observe, "Precedents, if allowed to exist, unheeded, of extended evil, operate to the disadvantage of the community at large, and have frequently been seen to strike at the noblest laws of society."

My love and lasting regard attends yourself and good daughter.

W.

Monday, October 3d.

DEAR MRS. S.

PRAY let me hear from you; it is a fortnight since you last addressed me:---so great a period of silence has not prevailed for years!---I have anxiously awaited the post for several days; and it appears as if your recollection is the satisfaction my depressed spirits require. Who has driven me from your memory?---Pray write immediately, and set my fears at rest:---I am full of dread, lest misfortunes should again have injured your health. Habit is second nature---it renders me interested in all that concerns you; but this you need not be told.

I have been endeavouring to amuse myself, by collecting curious stones, that I may, on my return to town, present you with a pebble *melange*; also the worthy Lavinia.

God bless you both!

W.

June 30th.

I AM going, to-day, to consult a fit person, as to the proceedings I ought to take, to bring the gentleman to answer at the Bar of the House of Lords, for his impudent conduct; being, as I suppose, a *breach of privilege*. But I must be on sure grounds here; and therefore must consult some able intelligent Lord, master of the subject, and willing to assist me.

I hope you will succeed in your endeavours; but I much doubt it:---I cannot but feel equally obliged to you, should it fail. I will call as soon as I can; but think I must be all the day with Mr. Parker, and others, on great concerns. I do assure you he has not been idle one moment; and he writes to me most fully and satisfactorily; but you must not expect he will communicate, to any one, the plans and means he must employ; therefore, he may appear close, and even deceitful, as it is his trade; a necessary caution and duty indispensable; but all is, I am sure, intended for the best, notwithstanding the road does not always seem the shortest that could be taken. I will sound him, as to your ideas, on the subject: they seem *wise* and *practicable*. I shall be anxious to hear the result of the *conference*; it certainly has

an object not avowed; probably to sift, and get intelligence, which may be turned against you and me; or it may be to sound what I mean to do---if I am willing to *compromise*. C—k seems to hang on the same tack. Fear is the motive, or I am much mistaken: but you are not easily trepanned by such men.

Your's, truly,

W.

Green Street, June 19th.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE seen Branning; he says, that he met Mr. George Cooke in the road, and that he said, "Lord Warwick has been at the Castle."---*B.* "I am glad of it."---*C.* "If Lord Warwick consults some proper persons, *even yet* something might be done."---*B.* "Might it; so, Mr. George Cooke, you begin to tremble!"

Lord *****, my dear Madam, you will find determined, in appearance, the effect of ignorance; but when met with resolution and truth, he will

feel at a loss what to say. Obstinacy, not firmness, is the ground on which he stands. He wishes, however, to appear right, and to think so, himself; but he has neither knowledge, energy, or application, to obtain the possession of facts. Such has his conduct been, I really pity him; for, certainly, no man alive has sacrificed so much for a shadow:---he cannot put two sentences together, and argue rationally on them. Knowing nothing of his own, he rests, obstinately, a defender of what he *wishes* to be right. If there was one gleam of candid, affectionate, or of honorable conduct to be discovered, in the whole series of his actions and writings, I might hope *his disorder* was not of a desperate malignity; but, unfortunately, all is poisoned, and reduced him, not in nature honorable, to the situation of an in-----d character.

The trial is now before the world, and he must stand or fall on the good or bad of his defence; and what defence can a *** set up against a *****, before he is entitled to dare to appear in the world, as his opponent. I should have a case to produce, which states, that, however parental affection may influence, honor and truth forbid compromise, since the irresistible ordinance of his God is disregarded; and, that it is *own heart* that compels him to act against *** *****!!! But, if he does not prove all this, beyond the shadow

of a doubt, he becomes, as he deserves to be, the *despised wretch*; unfit and unworthy to be admitted into any honorable society. ***** should know, and be told this, *firmly*---It is no tenderness in a surgeon to shrink from cutting to the bottom of the mortification.

W.

Monday.
MADAM,

It was great satisfaction to hear of your having so much recovered, and that you had so good a physician to attend you. The necessity of endeavouring to keep your mind at rest, he has, I am sure, advised: pray do all you can to obey his rule. I am truly sorry that circumstances still occasion a total incapacity of doing what I am bound, and so much wish; promises continue, but nothing done: I know of no remedy but patience, and the hopes of better times! Much may be done when least expected, as much has been undone when most relied on. We are the sport

of contingencies and accidents, wholly out of our power to controul. You may rest perfectly assured that the *person* to whom *you allude* is incapable of forgetting *those* he regards! Let such suspicion be banished, as quite inadmissible: when there is the least cause for doubt, *doubt every thing*; but remain quite satisfied until the warning appears.

Pray remember, when recovered, that you have been ill, and do not venture to do what might be prudent, if you had not suffered so much: keep your rooms aired; do not suffer the smell of paint to grow unnoticed. I believe the *Painter, West*, owes his health to this precaution. You should know, much as I admire your art, I value yourself greatly superior. If I succeed in what I think I have some chance, I will inform you; in the mean time, be assured of the interest I take in your welfare and perfect recovery.

I am, Madam,

Your's, truly,

W.

P.S. I will execute any agreement you like, in the meanwhile. I hereby again acknowledge myself indebted to you the sum of £2,500.

WARWICK.

June 21.*

MY DEAR MRS. S.

THE *meeting* cannot do harm, and possibly may do some good; if a good cause, powerfully urged, will command success, you may expect it; for you have two able allies, justice, and eloquence of truth, on your side; but let me intreat you to remember that more impression is made by a few strong statements, than by volumes of after-reasonings. You well know all this; but, if you have a fault, you give those unworthy of it *too much* of what they will not, if they could, attend to. *Finish* one point before you go to another: general descriptions and assertions are only generally answered; the business is to bring the matter to a *point*. Lord B—— has either *conceited*, or pretends to feel for what he calls, *the interest of the family, when, in fact, it is his own interest solely*; for every part of the family has long been, and continues to be, fully and completely protected and secured; it is not in my power, if I were inclined, to injure in any degree; though I may, if I live, greatly improve the situation, in point of comfort, of the younger children, *for their portions*

* Lord Warwick on Lord B——, his son.

should be greatly increased. Does Lord B—— know so very little of the law of this realm, or any other country, as to suppose it will be endured, that a *** should u——p his father's estates and rights, because he *imagines* he can manage them better: the Court of Chancery will give his Lordship a lesson for life on this point; and does not Lord ***** apprehend he is sinking in character every hour, *never to rise again*, by the monstrous and unworthy conduct he is pursuing. Counsellor W——, in Court, said, he wished Lord B—— to be in Court, to hear what he said on the subject, as to *compromises and restrictions*; what, I apprehend, Lord B—— means to sound you on. Remember that I will listen to nothing but the recovery of usurped rights; to accept, *amicably*, of that I must obtain, by law, reason, justice, honor. But I shall be anxious to hear what passes, and, though not naturally curious, wish I could listen to every word, or get it written in short-hand; but, as this is impossible, I rely on your statement, which will be *faithful*, as every thing you do is. The confidence of truth will support you; God grant it may, on this occasion, to some effect, but I have no great expectation of its producing any whatever. Lord B—— stands, as I have repeatedly told him, on the brink of a precipice; his character will be b——d now, and for ever, if he does not instantly determine to save it:

there is no way of doing this but one—to confess his fault, and repent of it; without he does this, he is lost irrecoverably; and his character will be remembered, but to be pointed out as a m——r of a ***, repaying the kindness of an indulgent p——t with the deepest ingratitude; and for no other purpose, but to abet the most p——te a——ts, and an indolent trustee; a man of pleasure and enjoyment, a mere worldly-minded man, who basely betrays a sacred trust, and leaves to a set of p——te a——ts the employment, in which they exert their abilities, to p——e and destroy that property, which is the property of his relation and friend: which he was, by every tie of honour, faith, and justice, bound to defend and protect. If Lord B—— should ever see you, read what I have written to him, and tell the truth to him, that he will be despised and abhorred hereafter. I neither fear nor court him: I have been to him the most indulgent and kind father, from the day of his birth; and even after his unnatural behaviour had forfeited all claim to my affection. I preserved it, and have, to the present moment, and intreated him to view the horrors which so dreadfully surrounded him, but in vain; obstinacy, such as I never saw before, and this backed by a perfect ignorance; it can be no triumph to gain a victory over a son. He well knows I have made him, repeatedly, the most liberal offers ever

made; £7,000 per annum, this he refused: *why*, remains to be seen; but I am convinced, a very strange cause remains to be discovered, for there is no effect without a cause.

Believe me, always,

Your's,

W.

Memorandum :---This letter was received from the late Earl of Warwick, by the Editor, a short time previous to the visit of Lord B——, whom she had solicited to see, with the hope of conciliating matters between his father and himself. Lord B—— waited on Mrs. S——, as the Memoirs of his Father will inform the reader.

*London; 1, Cumberland Street,
Cumberland Place, New Road.*

March 12th.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM glad you like your house. I should probably have called to-day, had it not snowed so hard; and I dare not go in a hackney-coach,

or risk being lame again, when a day or two's longer rest will set all right, I hope. I assure you it is impossible to move the great people:---in most things they take up a general idea, often a wrong one, and never know how to discriminate, and to make an exception. It is a lost case as to T——: and you have done the best you could; but no gratitude will you find:---and your knowledge of the world, and experience of former times, by your reading, have taught you the same lesson repeatedly, that, as long as self-interest is concerned, all is right; but nothing will be done, the moment this impulse ceases to act. Had justice operated, you would have been provided for, and your integrity rewarded, by the ***** as your affection merits.

God bless you and L——!

Your's, truly,

W.

January 17th.

DEAR MADAM,

You have, before this, received the letter I wrote, and therefore it will not be necessary to

repeat what I there said. The observations you make, as to something I intended to observe, but did not, may be just; because, possibly, I might have been interrupted when I wrote, and there is no splicing ideas, like china-ware.

I conclude that your active mind has made all further negotiation with Mr. M—— unnecessary, as to the *drafts* or bills. I think that it would be right to let Mr. M—— draw on Sir G——e J——n, and he to accept them; this will keep my name out of the question, which, as much as possible, should be, to avoid *implication*, as to Bankrupt Laws, &c.

Your plan, as to Lord B——, seems to be a *rational* one; but I am afraid you will find yourself *disappointed*; for I do not think you will *see* him, and, if you did, you will not be able to overcome deep-rooted prejudices. Ignorant people may be instructed, the violent be rendered calm, but when a man is not acquainted with facts, and the truth, and is too indolent to take the pains of *investigating* them, the case is *hopeless*, and so, I fear, you will find it. But I do not pretend to estimate *your* powers of persuasion; and, if any thing would do, the attempt you meditate might prove *efficacious*. Many people consider their own danger, when they seem to give up to reason and conviction, *which they do not feel*. How far this consideration may operate, is another ques-

tion ; and, surely, it is not courage, but madness, to face the impending dangers, that must be met by Lord B—— and Lord Oss—y, *and the party*. This is all my reliance ; for I have exhausted all my stock of argument, entreaty, &c. in vain.

Yours, faithfully,
W.

June 15th.

DEAR MADAM,

You will, I fear, think it strange that I have not written to you sooner ; but if you knew how much I have to do, and the number of letters I must answer, some on business of great importance, many to those who have but little intellect, on either side, you would excuse me. Always suppose I could give good reasons, when none appear. I am here, quite a state prisoner ; but I find plenty of occupation, so I cannot say I feel much weariness. I insisted to see your brother, or to complain to higher powers, and I did see him. I am let out, and, when in, locked up ;

but see no one. A few questions may be asked on this subject, in due time.

Nothing can be done in the loan way here, as I know, from good authority; but I think I have the means, in London, of effecting it, if necessary, which I think doubtful, as the £80,000 Lord Oss—y owes me, may be set off against the £26,000 fairly; I believe we shall see soon. You know, sooner than I can, what passes in town.

Your's, faithfully,

W.

DEAR MRS. S.

If it is your wish to see me, I will do myself the honor of waiting on you, or shall expect you here to-morrow, at twelve o'clock. At one o'clock I am obliged to be at a meeting by appointment.

I have the honor to be,

Your's, truly,

W.

Saturday, April 27th.

DEAR MRS. S.

I HAVE accepted the bill, at your request, and most sincerely hope it may prove of service. Believe me, all my Chancery business goes on exactly to my wish:---no hopes of *accommodation*. However I regret it on many accounts, I rejoice that the T---t a---ts will be obliged to stand in all the deformity of their iniquity.

Truly your's,

W.

P.S. Soon all will be well, and secured to *you*. My best remembrances to dear Lavinia; tell her not to fag so much at her music; she is sure of success in a moderate application, and health is a grand point to be attended to.

Green Street, June 17th.

DEAR MADAM,

You will be surprised at my return. Believe me, it was unavoidable; as you will soon hear. I cannot enter into the particulars now. I have a hundred things more to do, than I can find time for; so pray excuse me, that I say no more at present.

Always your's, truly,

W.

P.S. I will execute any security you desire on the Trust debt.

WARWICK.

I send this letter, which I thought I had directed to be put into the post; but I placed it among papers, where I found it.

June 20th,

DEAR MADAM,

I AM all anxiety to complete the business : I can never be sufficiently grateful. Tell Lavinia she may be assured I wish her well ; and that she may long continue to be a comfort to her mother, is my sincere wish. But I know enough of the danger of talents, not almost to dread them ; being, unless under the most favourable circumstances, no *real blessings* ; there is so much fascination in their possessions, that I know it is heresy to refuse being a votary ; but, common sense is the greatest essential in moderate fortune, as talents and accomplishments are but indifferently understood by the majority of mankind, and more indifferently appreciated : all this you know how to teach your daughter, and I hope she will possess a true share of each, and thus be a reasonable and useful member of society, by observing the due medium so difficult to obtain. I am glad you have found a residence which will suit you for the present. I hope to-morrow early to have the pleasure of hearing you are in possession of it. I have met with a sad disappointment, when least expected it, which I more regret, as it puts it out

of my power for the present to do what would afford me the most sincere satisfaction.

You will be glad to hear that my daughter's health continues to mend. I hope her fever is nearly gone; a relapse is to be guarded against, but every precaution is taken, though it is impossible to keep things cool and quiet in town. I am sure it is unnecessary for me to add that I shall be most happy to see you comfortably settled, and I trust now that it will be soon effected. I had made enquiries, without success; some nearly right, but I always found some objections. You cannot, with your refined and enlightened mind, be interrupted with low domestics, &c. &c.

I am, Madam,

Your's, truly,

W.

P.S. Your idea was a most excellent one! worthy of a W-I—t's blood! I shall profit by it, as indeed I do by most you advise. Mr. Perceval says you are a non-descript; and wishes, with myself, you possessed a certain Personage's ear; the c—y would benefit from the measure. Truth and sincerity seldom approach a P—ce, especially in such times, when knaves and fools are dressed in tinsel, and honest men in tatters!—You

will rejoice I have been made again a grandfather.

When is your publication coming out? It provokes me to think *others* elevate their fortune upon the merits of yourself. Do not so toss away you talents.

Shall Genius, weeping, fly from sight,
And Mammon steal its vestments bright?
Shall your laurel others crown,
Robb'd of fortune and renown!

April 2d.

DEAR MADAM,

WHY are you so silent? We must not fall asleep: I look forward with pleasure to the event which I do now think will soon place me in full possession of my estates and rights; and I feel, as I ought to do, how much I am indebted to your unremitting endeavour to serve me *effectually*.

I have but just time to send this, and remem-

ber me to Lavinia, who will I am sure continue to be your comfort and friend.

My dear Madam,

Your's, truly,

W.

I am not able to answer a very important part of your letter relative to yourself.

God bless you.

DEAR MRS. S.

I AM very low and weak; I miss your society, and conversation, that so often has rallied my spirits. I hope to see you very soon; but I mend slowly; anxiety is an enemy to health; I have known too much of it, as well as yourself, of late years. I shall follow your sensible advice, and esteem you a most excellent Physician! Your friendship has frequently alleviated my cares, of a mental nature; alas! why cannot you administer to my health? Time, rapidly flies, yet

things are not successfully ended, that I anticipated months back. Patience is a virtue, that few possess ; but I will endeavour to be calm. I should be more so if I did not feel the situation in which I have placed you. Alas ! I have not a single pound at command. Can this be the law of justice !

My best regards to Lavinia.

Your's, truly,

W.

April 27th.

DEAR MRS. S.

I AM still unable to ride, an exercise I stand in need of ; I have only been to see my sister, and that fatigued me ; I could not reach you. I feel an oppression on my chest: it is the weather, so very unseasonable. I never forget you ; it is impossible, nor the excellent Lavinia. I am expecting a large sum. The moment I can assist you

I will do it. This you believe. Keep up your spirits; all will soon be well.

Your's, truly,

W.

Monday.

DEAR MRS. S.

I COULD not give you a call, as I most anxiously hoped to do, yesterday; the rain proved a cruel hindrance; every thing vexes me. I picture to myself the disappointment you experienced, and dear Lavinia too.—God bless you both; I will write to-morrow.

W.

MY DEAR MRS. SERRES,

To what troubles has your friendship reduced you; I may truly say, the obligations I

am under are of a nature to demand eternal gratitude. Your patience is admirable amidst such trials; but kindly hold up a little longer, and I trust all things will be as you could wish. Tell the excellent and sensible Lavinia, to look forward for happier times. I am indefatigably engaged every day, and expect the most successful results. Believe you are, as you should be, constantly in my thoughts, and that all I desire, please Heaven I recover, is, to live to convince you of my gratitude, and to lead you to the sphere of life that your talents and exceeding integrity entitle you to move in. The time is not very far distant, when I hope the P—— will be your great friend. I shall faithfully adhere to the promises I have made; however, the vexatious disappointments have created a delay of matters nearest my heart. This chill season renders me very susceptible of cold, and my chest continues weak and painful; but, I anticipate every thing from the skill of the excellent Sir Henry Hallford, whose attentions convince me that he is not only a great physician, but also a humane and benevolent character. Pray be careful of your own health, and believe I shall secure your future prosperity, happen what may: ere this some grand objects would have been accomplished, independently of S——, had my health been such as to allow of my attending to business; but somehow, I feel so

weak and unable to meet bodily exertion, that it seems as if a great load lay at my heart, which is often succeeded by a violent palpitation, *unusual*.

My best and most affectionate wishes attend you.

WARWICK.

Monday.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE waited, with some anxiety, to hear from you: for it is seldom that so long a silence has passed, without having that pleasure. I sent the notes signed, *one for yourself*, signed and accepted to Messrs. W—— & Hinds, according to their desire, and saying it was your direction; but I have not heard from them since. You know the situation in which I am placed, and will pardon the trouble I have occasioned. It is a time of real difficulty, and I know you well enough to be certain, that though I have not heard from you, that no exertions are wanting on your part.

I have the great satisfaction to assure you, that the prospects of *success* increase, and that, notwithstanding former disappointments, I still believe a very short time will do what I want, and bring my enemies into the *net*, completely. You will give me credit for what you do not now know, because the most profound secrecy has been one of the means of effecting the object. I need not say this does not apply to *you*; but it is a most excellent general rule; for the continued attentions of people to do mischief, I could not have believed, had I not had such repeated strong instances of it; but you need not be informed, as it has been in *your* recollection. I am sure what has been done is by this means.

I have had a very short time to write my letters, before the post goes out, so cannot enter on any subject or detail. I most sincerely hope to hear more favourable and comfortable news from yourself and L——, to whom always remember me; she knows I do not flatter.

Your's, truly,

W.

P.S. I will execute any security you desire, as to the £1000. I have no time to say more.

My present Rent-roll, (1816) is £24,000 per Annum.

Plantation and Timber 1,000

Total..... £25,000

Next Year all my Estates are out of Lease, and the rise on them cannot be less than £5,000 per Annum.

Soap Earth 5,000

Clutton Coal Mines 10,000

Hackney, Stone, Bricks, &c. 3,000

Rise..... 23,000

Present Rental 25,000

Total £48,000 per Annum.

This is on the most moderate scale. Lord Os—y owes me, at least, 80,000; *perhaps*, above £100,000, by evidence of *T—t account*, and by *award*.

Weymouth, October 29th.

DEAR MADAM,

I COULD not get a letter into the post, *in time*, on Friday, and yesterday, you know, no letters went to London; to day, however, I will not neglect to send what, even after the constant disappointments, will, I hope, prove successful. I destroyed your letter, I fear, too soon; for I am not sure if you directed the note *so* to be drawn; however, I send it on a venture. I have been, as usual, fairly promised, and foully deceived, when I most wanted assistance. If I do not hear this day from a quarter I had depended, I fear, too much, on, I shall be in a very unpleasant situation; but I should not trouble you with a recital of unnecessary details. I well know in all you are concerned, that zeal, activity, and perseverance, are not wanting, in any degree, where this can be exerted for my benefit; but I much fear what you want cannot be obtained by even these good qualities. Hope, as usual, rests as before, and there, I fear, it must rest, to entice its votaries on, incessantly.

W.

January 23d.

MY DEAREST MADAM,

I AM very ill, as yet; but hope every thing from the excellence of my constitution, and the temperate habits of my life. Do consider things must very soon mend. Our trials have been great; but we should return our thanks to the Power who has bestowed essential fortitude, during such affliction. I learn, from your good daughter you are recovering;---Heaven grant it!---My sincere prayers attend ye daily.

Believe me, with love to Lavinia,

Your's, truly,

W.

January 30th.

DEAR MRS. S.

STILL I am endeavouring to raise the needful, and which circumstances so decidedly

command:---if I succeed, I will relieve my mind from a sad and oppressive burthen of anxiety. I expect great things this week, as to my grand cause. Lord B—— shows some inclination to be reasonable; but I shall not be trifled with, should any undermining advantages be aimed on the part of the T——t S——rs.

I never was so anxious for my liberty as at the present moment;---a man can delegate but to few, pecuniary affairs; and lawyers, like harpies, devour greatly when no rein is held upon their measures!---Alas! I have felt the truth of this observation; and can well affirm---it is folly to place a *confidence* where interest ever governs.

God bless you!

W.

January 30th.

DEAR MADAM,

I TRUST that very soon our plagues will vanish, and give place to solid comfort. I will send for the Magazine. May things so happen

as to make your life comfortable. Perhaps, as evils come on a sudden, good may take the same turn.

Truly your's.

W.

January 4th.

DEAR MRS. S.

LARGE sums are unquestionably due from my T——t. Query, If Mr. B—— would accept it as security?---As to *deposits*, or tangible property, I have none to offer, with the chance of success; but I should be glad to know what sum, if the £30 was paid, Mr. B—— could advance. I am positively of opinion country air would prove of great service to us, and now, I believe, the weather will change permanently; but you are much mistaken if you think I am strong enough to ride at all---it would be impossible; yet I feel a few days would wonderfully restore me to health and strength. When I had given up the hope of settling on amicable terms the grand contest, I was not

agitated; but when I had cause to expect a more favorable issue, it has taken much hold on my mind. God grant it may ripen into effect, and save the horrors of a continued contest, though I am perfectly sure of final success.

Assure Lavinia of my friendly regard; and, if she takes, early in the morning, a little of the first milk, it will greatly benefit her.

Believe I remain, your faithful and anxious friend, ever.

W.

P.S. My Paper runs short, and I must husband it, or I would not address you on a cover. I am told, and shown by Mr. P——, that he is alert on his post, and that my enemies find it so:--- I augur well from what is now going on. I can effect but *little, here*; it is but too true, that *walls have ears*. My kind remembrance to L——. God grant I may have the great pleasure of seeing her and you more comfortable. I admire your *patience*:---it is impossible I should do otherwise.

Your's, truly,

W.

Green Street, January 29th.

DEAR MRS. S.

I NEED not say, how I dwell on your generous regard, nor all I wish to do. You will not be wrong if you put every good wish to my intention. Your good daughter is a treasure, that I hope you will long live to enjoy seeing daily, the object of love and esteem.

I am getting round hourly.

Your's, truly,

W.

P.S. I have opened this to say I have seen Sir H. Halford; he says, every thing is going on perfectly well. I shall live to make you and your daughter happy.

February 3d.

DEAR MRS. S.

I BEGIN to count the hours until I again see so excellent a friend. My strength returns

very slowly, or you should have seen me ; business I am not able to attend. Alas ! It is on your account I lament my disappointments. Pray do not despair ; a presentiment comforts me that better times are in store for you : I cannot express half I feel ; but you are the best of women, and Heaven will yet be your protection, bestowing the prosperity your benevolence of disposition is entitled to receive.

Love to Dear Lavinia.

Your's truly,

W.

February 5th.

DEAR MRS. S.

THIS dreadful weather hinders what I most wish ; I cannot stir out of doors, and I feel considerable oppression on my chest, yet I have no cough. Dr. H—— is a most excellent character, and does wonders. Thus you may expect me soon ; never has our separation appeared so long ; it is most distressing to declare I am

without a shilling; one disappointment follows another: I dread to hear the extent of your trials. Your habits of retirement, your fortitude, and virtue, equally claim my admiration and regard: Lavinia, too, she is a non-descript.

God bless you both,

W.

February 9th.

DEAR MRS. S.

I ADMIRE the resignation of you both; adversity has enriched your minds. But that you should have so stedfastly preserved your regards for myself, an old, and unfortunate man, is departing from the customs of the modern age. I will still live in hope that my life will be spared to reward you both, as your excellencies demand at my hands. I take every possible care of myself, for your sakes, and trust we shall yet live to surmount our misfortunes: I must not write; so farewell.

Always, your's,

W.

February 15th.

DEAR MRS. S.

IF I do not write so often as I have been used, pardon me; and believe indisposition, not neglect, operates. I cannot yet take exercise, which vexes me; I want to converse with you on several matters, that are important; but this trying illness counteracts every thing. Love to L——.

W

February 25th.

DEAR MRS. S:

KNOWING how you suffer, I have endeavoured to raise a few hundreds, but have been unsuccessful in most I have tried; I have not one farthing:—a person who promised to call here to-day neglected to do it.

I seriously hope to be more fortunate to-mor-

row; but, confined as I am, I cannot make people move faster than they are inclined to do. I expect Dr. L——, but he is not come; the weather is far from being favourable, or what would be of service to me, and you must not expect to see me yet. I don't go ever to see my sister, though so near. I am truly distressed to have been the cause of your continual torments.

I have the greatest confidence things will very soon mend; but there is no way of driving them beyond the pace they like to go; and the old remedy, patience, is all we have to support us.

There is no way of raising money; it is, I fear, a vain attempt; for the lawyer is applied to for opinion, and he always takes care to trouble the waters; though certainly I have a fair claim for an immense sum *on my Trust*.

Your's, truly,

W.

P.S. Do not break the seal of the inclosed; but, as directed, for certain reasons. If I recover my health and obtain my suit, you will experience more satisfaction than prosperity even. I feel satisfied, your mind will, although a female's, have sufficient firmness to suspend the curiosity natural to your sex. Pardon me; a man sick and out of humour with mankind, cannot be expected

to flatter; at such a season, honest truths should proceed from his pen.

God-bless you, and to
W.

March 3d.

MY DEAR MRS. S.

I AM all anxiety to see you; not a hour passes, without my experiencing the greatest regret on this account. I have written you a long letter, which I shall transmit you by a safe hand in a day or two; its contents will create surprize, but I apprehend nothing unpleasant from it; knowing so well your strength of mind. If I should not recover, I shall contrive a way to secure you, and give you future comfort, by the distribution of some monies, my right; but I hope every thing from the skill and judgment of my Doctors; the weather is mending, then I shall ride out, and be less subject to cold. Pray take care of yourself, and believe nothing shall be left undone, on my

part, to obtain you comfort ; I will lodge monies in the Bank, the moment my suit is decided, which Mr. P—— assures me, cannot be much longer delayed. He is exerting himself all in his power, and proceeds with the greatest industry in my affairs, The T——t tremble:---*Truths* will yet claim the public attention, of an extraordinary nature. The world will at last learn proceedings contrary to all precedent ; and commiserate a ***** and ***** , suffering from the disaffection to say no worse, of his n——t t—s of b——d. Such obstinacy as L——d ***** I never beheld ; such want of intellect too : but time and Providence will bring the merited retribution ! Had my beloved Son Ch—les been but ***** born, I had escaped the exceeding troubles and mortifications I have known. He is all I wish him to be.

God bless you both,

W.

Green Street, March 22d.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM surprised that a person of your good sense should listen to the idle gossip of a number of babblers. I have no acquaintance with Mr. Brown, and have had no *transactions* relative to Pictures, as you describe: all I have ever had in contemplation, is to exchange, when I can, a few of the Pictures which I do not like, or think suit Warwick Castle, for others of a more fit description; but this cannot be done till I obtain my rights.

I have met with a most extraordinary disappointment, at a time when the odds in my favour were certainly not less than a hundred to one: but so it is when the tide runs strong one way. All my good fortune in one line, and I cannot but acknowledge it has its true balance another; so it should be, I suppose, *wholesale* against *retail*. The death of the property tax ought to be £2,000 per annum in my favor; but, I suppose, it will ease the pockets of the Trust Agents, if the attacks lately made on them will not annihilate them, as I expect it will, soon, as I have seen Mr. S—g and obtained a delay. We parted very good

friends at last, though at first much out of humour. I am waiting in the hopes of some favorable turn, but I dare not surmise any thing; all I can say is, that I leave nothing undone I can think of.

Truly, Your's,

W.

April 8th.

DEAR MADAM,

I HAVE been most unfortunately disappointed; but live in hopes of being able to do all I possibly can to set your mind at rest, and I have great hopes of being able to effect it *soon*. Difficulties are, with me, as common as weeds; but patience and perseverance will do wonders. I am sure you will be glad to hear that my *grand concern* goes on perfectly to my *satisfaction*, and I expect an *immediate* benefit, but am not ac-

quainted with the particulars :—more of this when we meet.

I desire you will accept of the picture in which the fiddle is; one of a kind is as much as I want: the other is, in its way, admirable. I am glad you have determined to see Mr. W—; and shall be truly happy to hear good accounts, on this, and other important subjects. Most things get right, if we can give them time to settle; though, I confess, some require instant relief. Good and bad are mingled together; and we are employed all our lives, in picking and chusing, often what is not worth the trouble.

I am not quite sure when I shall be able to call; I think, not to-day, having many very necessary things to attend to, all leaning on the great object. God bless you! If I can I will call to-morrow morning. I will bring all the papers.

Your's, truly,

W.

April 20th.

DEAR MISS L. SERRES,

It is lamentable to reflect, that a trifle, which I cannot command, stands in the way of your and your mother's comfort. I cannot stir out of the house; and, if I could, that, perhaps, would not prevail to get an advance, *immediately*. I am not without expectations, that, *this day*, I may be successful; but very early, I fear not:--- the moment I am certain I will write to you; and more fully on other matters, if I am able; but I am low to-day, and may be prevented.

Every good attend you and your mother, is my sincere wish.

Your's, truly,

W.

April

DEAR MRS. S,

ALAS! I have been unable, as yet, to succeed; but hope I shall, in some degree, to-

night. I do not know if Dr. L—— has settled every thing; for, this time, *every thing* shall be settled.

Your's, truly,

W.

DEAR MADAM,

I AM truly sorry to hear so much, and so little favorable. I expect, but have not received any thing:--the moment I do, I will send to you. Never give yourself a thought on a parcel of unpr——d s——s; I shall be able soon to set them at defiance. I have been quite tired with people, I am obliged to see; so excuse this short communication.

Your's, truly,

W.

Saturday Morning.

DEAR L. S.

I WRITE to you, to save your mother's eyes; and to say, I am much concerned and surprised, as I believed Dr. L—— had done what he promised Mrs. S—— and me. I have not, as yet, succeeded in any thing, consequently, have no *power* to act, in any way that would relieve your mamma directly. I seldom quit my couch, and am extremely weak; therefore, if those who promise do not come to *me*, I cannot go to *them*. I expect a gentleman here to-day, and have hopes I have another chance:---a bookseller owes me a sum; possibly I may get it to-day: I could give an order on him;---this is all I can do, *directly*, though I have some prospects, next week.

I most sincerely pray, that your health may be re-established by an excursion into the country. First milk, a pint, or less, from the cow, every morning, will be, for you, the best of all things; I mean, the *first milk drawn*. It is not a recipe to be despised, after the good effects I have been witness to.

If I hear any thing worth communicating, you may depend on my writing directly; and am

2 M

truly sorry it is not in my power to send
consolatory information, after your kindness and
sincerity.

I remain, truly,

Your Friend,

W.

Monday.

DEAR MADAM,

I BEGIN to take air, as, I suppose, you
know. I have had a second serious attack of
cold and repelled perspiration, partly owing to
my own imprudence. I was, however, wise
enough to ask able advice, at Weymouth, which
enabled me to take advantage of the fine weather,
and I came to town the better for my journey.
I have since been under the direction of that ex-
cellent physician, Sir H. H--lf--d, an agreeable
man, and we go on admirably. I can, with truth,
assure you, I have gone on progressively and
daily amending in health; my spirits never have
failed me. I have promised, on the honor of a

gentleman, not to answer letters, or admit any one. I have seen but one or two, and am fully as equal to transact business as I ever was in my life; but quiet of mind, and rest of body, are the only things on which I can reasonably depend.

Believe me, my business in Chancery is going on *perfectly* to my satisfaction, and I have no doubt of a speedy and great success; indeed, I cannot comprehend how it can fail.

I have got a most comfortable room, and excellent nurses in abundance, in my daughters. I eat and sleep admirably, and am going on as well as possible; and you may be assured (so I really think) the illness will turn out a blessing, and teach me a useful lesson, that I am advanced in life too far to act as a boy.

With every wish for your, and your good daughter's health and comfort,

I remain,

Dear Madam,

Your friend,

W.

P.S. Your daughter's letter was left, and came from Weymouth;---I could then read none.

Sunday Evening.

MY DEAR EXCELLENT ROMAN FRIEND,

YOUR generous attention to my welfare, demands, at my hands, the most heart-felt return. How shall I ever be able to repay your friendship as its sincerity demands?---Alas! the time once was, when I could have experienced that satisfaction; as it is, I can only repeat my thanks, for you enabled me to proceed in a hope I had long cherished, of again visiting the Castle, and you shall have no reason to repent your generosity. Much may be accomplished during my continuance here, and I shall embrace every moment for our general advantage. I say, *our*, because you alone have sympathized in all my afflictions, and are justly deserving of my most early and grateful recollections. The exact disposition of my first dear wife!--Your sensibility and kindness, at times, quite oppress me, because I am ompelled to be so great a bankrupt in return. Heaven send things may mend!--Your patience and forbearance exceeds all competition!--How many would distrust and reproach, subjected to the inconveniences you have been, through your services to myself!

I am preparing for the great effort, and as, I consider, the £26,000 is virtually paid to my T——t, they cannot dispossess me of my Castle. Once established there, I will hold you up to Warwickshire, such as you really have been, *the preserver of myself*. I hope to have the pleasure of visiting you to-morrow. Your sweet bird indulged me with a song, this morning, in your absence. My kind remembrance to Lavinia.

Your's ever,

W.

April 19th.

DEAR MRS. S.

TIME will be the conqueror at last, and is the only remedy for worldly cares. I am recovering, thanks to Sir H. Halford's skill, and hope to settle my affairs much sooner than you imagine to be likely. Yourself and dear daughter will be my first attention: it will afford me happiness inexpressible to convince you how grateful my soul feels for all your goodness: the county of

Warwick will again hail my old friend's good qualities in yourself; and you will be loved and valued by *all* my friends, when they know, as they shall do, it has been to yourself that I have been indebted for peace, hope, and means in my unparalleled troubles. The time is not far distant when I shall render Lady Warwick just to your deserts. Alas! why are females so apt to judge hastily and misinterpret?---But it is a justice I owe yourself to make known your real disposition and principles. Our friendship can meet the strictest scrutiny; it has been founded on *virtuous* and unalterable regard, that vulgar and prejudiced minds could not understand or participate in. The promise I have made you, as to the great personage, shall be religiously observed, when I can render you eligibly situated, by a return of the services you have rendered myself. You must not doubt my honor; the instant it is in my power you shall see that *I hold sacred my word*, in all matters between us. I send you some flowers.

God bless you and the excellent Lavinia.

W.

April 20th.

MY DEAR MRS. S.

I WRITE to you the second time to day, expect me very soon, but I continue strangely low and weak, and find talking renders me very unwell; so I must listen to your welcome strains when I call, and number my own words: your dear daughter being better gives me much joy; I love her exceedingly, she is a most excellent young woman, and deserving of every one's regard. Long may she live to prove a blessing to yourself, and long may you, her amiable mother, be spared to cast your protecting wing around her.

The hope as to an amicable settlement is past. Lord ——— will not meet me in one generous act: I cannot much longer submit to such oppression; it is illegal, and of a dangerous tendency if tolerated any longer: I have ever been the best of *****! And when I recal the base ingratitude I have met with in return for all my affection, I almost regret having been in this instance a F——r. L——d ***** will too late find his error. F—— is misled fatally. Heaven cannot sanction such a c——b——n against the h——d of a f——y. I must not reflect on my case, if I do, I shall not recover the spirits necessary for

the re-establishment of my health. Anxiety is an enemy to repose. We have our share, and may truly say, things must take a favourable turn, having so repeatedly tasted of the bitter cup of affliction.

I hope to send you some good news to-morrow.

God bless you,

W.

April 27th.
MY DEAREST MRS. S.

I HAVE seen a gentleman to day who promises to accept a bill ; if so, I will most conscientiously attend to the matter you hinted at, feeling greatly distressed to have occasioned you so much grief; but kindly hold up a little longer, and hope for the most prosperous and best of times. You are in the best of your year, and tranquillity will I trust completely restore your health. Your favourite Seneca affords instruction, when speaking of the oppressed: thus

we should each of us be above despair," such low harrasments are distressing, but things must very soon mend, and then you will move in the sphere you were born for; at present, like a beautiful bird, with lovely plumage, who has journeyed from a distant clime, you are out of your element: for although your graces attract great attention, yet the acquirements of your mind are such, fools fear you, and the *ignorant*, from *envy*, endeavour to sully your virtues. Never mind all this, you will yet be victorious, and triumph over such mean enemies; you have noble blood in your veins, and the integrity of the ancient Wilmots, which has been in past ages proverbial. Your grandfather and my grandmother were cousins. I feel it in all my sensations; for, independently of the offices of friendship, a something inexpressible holds me,

Ever your's,

W.

April 29th.

DEAR MADAM,

EVERY thing is relative, even misfortune almost ceases to be such with a comparison with what would be worse. If we were placed in the lower scale, perhaps we should think our present state a blessing. I had flattered myself that I should without doubt before this have had a small sum at least in my pocket; but a B——r, in Oxford Street, has treated me shamefully, and I am at last where I was two months ago; but to-morrow I shall finish with him, though he will not do what he promised so repeatedly, and by every tie of justice and punctuality he ought to have done; another person, but of a very different character could not assist me yesterday, but I expect it is possible he may in some respect to-morrow; but it will not be immediately in my power to send you more than £30 to-morrow. If you knew how I have been annoyed, plagued, and disappointed, and how very weak I am, you would, ill as you are yourself, I fear, in mind and body, pity me. Patience is the only resource, and to it we must both apply, in the full hope that some change may render things much more agreeable. I dare not promise that I am not certain will succeed,

but I do sincerely assure you I have good founded hopes yet, and not *distant ones*. More I cannot say or do, whatever your cares may be. The greatest satisfaction I can know, will be to restore tranquillity and happiness to yourself and good daughter, whose conduct commands esteem.

Truly your's,

W.

Tuesday, April 29th.

DEAR MRS. S.

ALAS! I have experienced a severe disappointment, that greatly affects my spirits. Every person deceives me, and spies surround me; perhaps s———d by my enemies! Some secret conspiracy it seems is afloat, to counteract almost all I wish to do: you kindly do not complain: I am sensible of your forbearance. Interest does not govern such a heart as your's. Ours has been a perilous voyage, but I trust the storms of frequent adversity are past. *Heaven grant it!*

The weather is most unfavourable; I have three times attempted to see you and dear L——. God bless you both, and believe, I am most truly anxious for your welfare, praying Heaven will protect you in all things and trials. I am very low spirited to night.

Your's, truly,

W.

MRS. WILMOT SERRES *has to apologize to the Public that some of the Letters of the EARL OF WARWICK are misplaced, owing to her having experienced a severe illness at the period of their printing.*

C O P Y

OF THE

Last Will and Testament

OF THE

RIGHT HON. GEORGE GREVILLE,

EARL BROOKE, and EARL of WARWICK.



C O P Y

OF THE

Last Will and Testament

OF THE

RIGHT HON. GEORGE GREVILLE,

EARL BROOKE, AND EARL OF WARWICK.

*Extracted from the Registry of the Prerogative Court of
Canterbury.*

*THIS is the LAST WILL and TESTA-
MENT of me, the Right Honorable
GEORGE GREVILLE, Earl BROOKE
and Earl of WARWICK.*

I GIVE and DEVISE all my Manors Mes-
suages Lands Tenements and Hereditaments
whatsoever, whether in possession reversion re-
mainder or expectancy, save and except such of
them as are situate in the County of Warwick,
with their respective rights members and appur-

tenances unto and to the use of the Right Honorable William Viscount Cathcart and John Dickenson of Buch Hall in the county of Derby Esquire, their Heirs and Assigns for ever, upon TRUST that they the said William Viscount Cathcart and John Dickinson or the Survivors of them or the Heirs or Assigns of such Survivor do and shall, as soon as conveniently may be after my decease, make sale and dispose of my said devised Estates and every part thereof, either by public auction or private contract and either together or in parcels, to such person or persons as shall be desirous of purchasing the same for the best prices in Money that can be reasonably obtained for the same, and do and shall convey and assure the said Estates when sold, unto and to the use of the purchaser or purchasers thereof his her or their respective Heirs or Assigns or as he or they shall direct And I give and bequeath all my Ready Money Arrears of Rent Securities for Money and all Money secured to me which I am entitled to claim upon from or out of all or any of my Family settled Estates and all interest that shall be due for the same at my decease and all other my personal Estate whatsoever and wheresoever unto

the said William Viscount Cathcart and John Dickinson their Executors Administrators and Assigns, upon TRUST, to call in and collect and receive the same as soon as conveniently may be after my decease And I hereby declare and direct that the said William Viscount Cathcart and John Dickinson and the Survivor of them and the Executors Administrators and Assigns of such Survivor shall stand possessed of the Money to arise by sale of my Real Estates herein before devised in TRUST to be sold as aforesaid And when such money shall be received and of the Rents and profits of the said Estates until the same shall be sold, and also of the Money to arise from my Personal Estate hereinbefore bequeathed upon TRUST, thereout to pay my just debts and my Funeral and Testamentary Expences and to stand possessed of all the rest and residue of the said Monies respectively, in TRUST for my Son the Honorable Charles John Greville and my daughters the Right Honourable Lady Harriet Louisa Clonmell Lady Caroline Mary Greville Lady Augusta Sophia Greville Lady Louisa Caroline Anne Greville and Lady Charlotte Ma-

tilda Greville or such of my said six children as shall be living at my decease, in equal shares and proportions. Provided always and I hereby expressly declare that in case my said daughter Harriet Louisa Clonmell or any other of my said daughters shall be married at my decease, then and in such case the Trustees or Trustee for the time being of this my Will shall stand possessed of the share of such of my said Daughters who shall be so married, in TRUST to lay out and invest the same in the names or name of my said Trustees or Trustee at Interest in or upon the Public Stocks or Funds or upon Government or real Securities, with full power from time to time to alter and vary such Stocks Funds and Securities for others of a similar nature, and shall stand possessed of the Stocks Funds and Securities upon which the share of each such Daughter shall be so laid out and invested upon such TRUSTS and to and for such intents and purposes and under and subject to such powers provisoes and declarations as each such Daughter as to her share so invested shall by any deed to be executed by her in the presence of and attested by two or more credible witnesses, or by her last Will and

Testament or any Codicil thereto to be by such Daughter signed and published of and attested by the like number of witnesses direct or appoint, and in the mean time and until any such direction or appointment shall be made, in TRUST during the life of each such Daughter to pay the Dividends Interest and annual produce of the Stocks Funds or Securities in or upon which her share shall be so invested into the proper hands of such Daughter, in order that the same may be for her sole and separate use and not subject or liable to the debts control or engagements of her Husband, and for which Interest Dividends and annual produce her receipts or the receipts of such person or persons as she shall by any writing under her hand appoint to receive the same shall alone be sufficient discharges And from and after the decease of each such Daughter so under coverture at my decease and in default of any such direction or appointment as aforesaid or so far as any such if incomplete shall not extend, then as to the share of each such Daughter so invested as aforesaid, in TRUST for her Executors or Administrators Provided also and I do hereby further declare That if any one or more of my said

Daughters shall be under the age of twenty-one years and unmarried at the time of my decease, the Trustees or Trustee for the time being of this my Will shall stand possessed of the share or shares of such of my said Daughters who shall be unmarried and under age, in TRUST to lay out and invest the same in the names or name of my said Trustees or Trustee at Interest in or upon the Public Stocks or Funds or on Government or real Securities and shall stand possessed of the Stocks Funds and Securities upon which the share of each such Daughter shall be so laid out and invested as last mentioned, upon TRUST for such Daughter as and when she shall attain her age of twenty-one years or be married, and in the mean time and until she attain that age or marry, my said Trustees or Trustee shall pay and apply the Dividends Interest and annual produce of the Stocks Funds and Securities in or upon which her share shall be so laid out and invested as aforesaid in or towards her maintenance and education in such manner as my said Trustees or Trustee shall think proper Provided also That if any one or more of my said Daughters who shall be unmarried and under the age of twenty-one

years at the time of my death shall die under that age and without having been married, then and in such case the share of each such Daughter so dying, as well original as accruing to her under this present clause of Survivorship, shall be in TRUST for the other or others of my said six children or such of them as shall be living at my decease, in equal shares if more than one; such surviving shares to be upon the same TRUSTS and subject to the same provisoes and declarations as are herein before expressed and declared concerning his her or their original shares or as near thereto as may be. I give and devise my Manors Messuages Lands Tenements and other Hereditaments situate in the County of Warwick, whether in possession reversion remainder or expectancy with their and every of their rights members and appurtenances unto and to the use of my eldest Son the Right Honourable Henry Lord Brooke his Heirs and Assigns for ever, but in case the Monies to arise by sale of my real Estates hereinbefore devised upon TRUST to be sold and the Money to arise from my personal Estate hereinbefore bequeathed, shall prove insufficient to discharge all my debts, then and in such case I do

hereby expressly charge my said Estates in the County of Warwick with the payment of such of my said debts as the produce of my said real Estates so devised to be sold and the produce arising from my said personal Estate shall be insufficient to satisfy And I declare and direct that if the said William Viscount Cathcart and John Dickinson or either of them or any future Trustee of this my Will shall die or refuse or decline to act in the TRUSTS thereof, then and in every such case a new Trustee or Trustees shall be appointed by the surviving or continuing Trustee or the Executors or Administrators of a surviving Trustee, and thereupon the said Trust Estates Securities and Premises shall in every such case be conveyed and assigned so as to become vested in such new and such surviving or continuing Trustee or in such new Trustees, solely upon the same TRUSTS and with the same powers as are herein before expressed and declared concerning the same Trust Premises respectively or such of them as shall for the time being be subsisting or capable of taking effect And I hereby expressly declare that the receipts of the Trustees or Trustee for the time being of this my Will for

all Monies to arise by sale of my real Estates hereinbefore devised upon TRUST to be sold as aforesaid and for all other Monies to be received by my said Trustees or Trustee under or by virtue of the powers and Trusts hereinbefore contained and declared, shall be good and effectual discharges to the persons or person paying the same for so much Money as in such receipts respectively shall be expressed to be received And that the person or persons paying such Monies shall not be obliged to see to the application thereof or be answerable for the loss or misapplication thereof or of any part thereof And I nominate and appoint the said William Viscount Cathcart and John Dickinson Executors of this my Will And I declare that they and the Trustees or Trustee for the time being of this my Will shall not be answerable the one for the other or others of them or for more Monies than they shall actually receive, notwithstanding their joining in receipts for conformity And that none of them shall be answerable for any involuntary losses And that they shall be allowed and shall and may retain in the first place out of the TRUST Monies to come to their respective hands, all their

costs charges damages and expences to be occasioned by the due execution of the TRUSTS hereby in them reposed or in relation thereto And I hereby revoke all former Wills

In Witness whereof I the said GEORGE GREVILLE EARL BROOKE and EARL of WARWICK have to this my last Will and Testament, contained in four sheets of paper, to the three first sheets thereof set my hand and to the fourth and last sheet thereof my hand and seal this twenty-second day of June one thousand eight hundred and twelve.

L.S.

BROOKE & WARWICK

Signed Sealed Published and Declared by the said Testator GEORGE GREVILLE EARL BROOKE and EARL of WARWICK as and for his last Will and Testament, in the

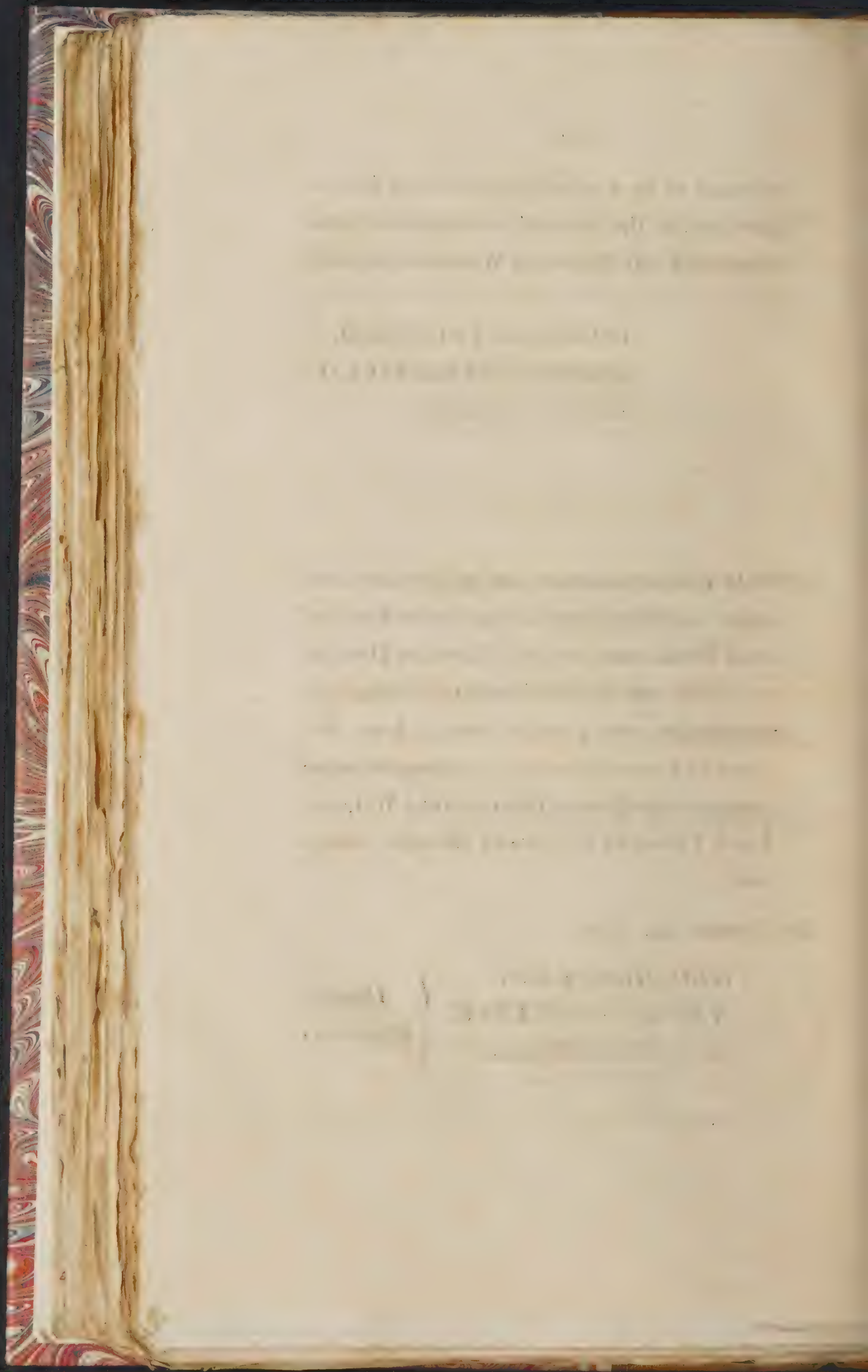
presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have subscribed our Names as Witnesses thereto

RICHARD TROWARD.
GEORGE MERRIFIELD.
JAMES PARKER.

*PROVED at London 21st of October 1816
before the Worshipful Judge by the Oath of
JOHN DICKENSON (in the Will written DICKIN-
SON) Esq. one of the Executors to whom Ad-
ministration was granted having been first
sworn by Commission duly to Administer power
reserved to the RIGHT HONOURABLE WILLIAM
LORD VISCOUNT CATHCART the other Execu-
tors.*

Ex^d. October 22, 1816.

<i>GEO. GOSTLING.</i>	} <i>Deputy</i>
<i>NATH^L. GOSTLING.</i>	
<i>R. C. CRESSWELL.</i>	
	<i>Registrars.</i>



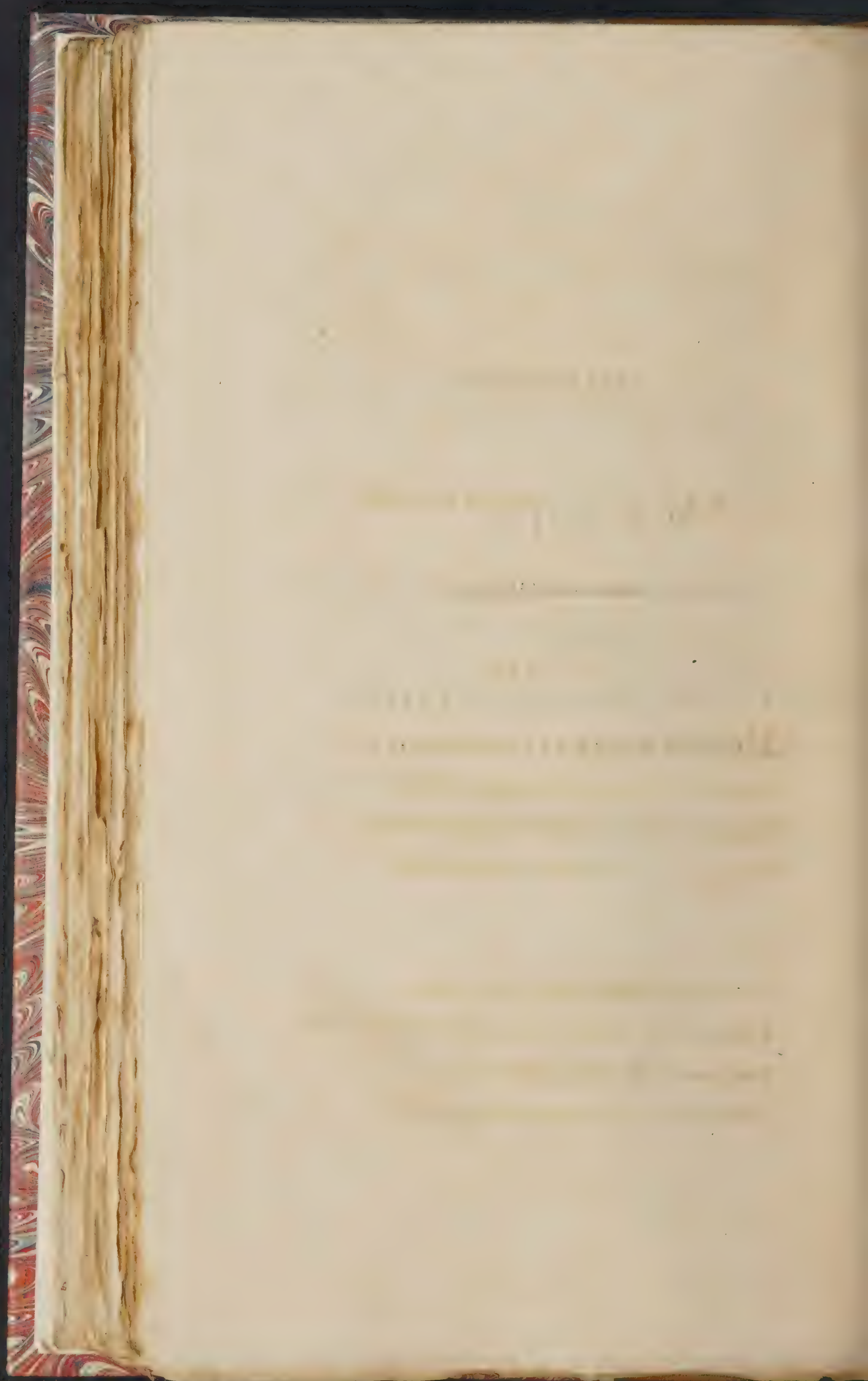
P O E M S

ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS,

OF THE LATE

RIGHT HON. GEORGE GREVILLE,

EARL BROOKE, and EARL of WARWICK.



POEMS

BY THE LATE

EARL OF WARWICK.

RICHES.

RICHES are blessings when they are us'd well,
But if for Vice employ'd, the gifts of hell!
They spread the evils which too much abound,
Which sown in every path of life are found;

They bribe the will, already prone to bad,
They nurse the scheme, from no good conscience had!
They form the projects of gigantic ill,
And with distress our dangerous progress fill.

That Power, that might the balm of comfort bring,
 And make the heart of the afflicted sing,
 The Orphan rescue from his wretch'd state,
 The widow'd Mother's grief to joy elate !

No longer sorrowing, and the scourge of pain ;
 Where fell disease and famine jointly reign !
 Where Misery keen, sits brooding o'er its prey,
 And Malice turns those scenes to sport and play !

The savage, Riot, holds his lawless throne,
 And deeds intemperate, to such boldness grown ;
 Where Luxury invites, what's not enjoy'd,
 And pall'd Appetites completely cloy'd :

Tho' at the door, the hungry wretch may say,
 The offal is denied, or thrown away :
 Here mad Profusion keeps her envied seat,
 And her vile orgies daily does repeat.

His hounds, his horses, pamper'd with all care,
 With those who lead them, every luxury share ;
 Here ostentation glows, in idle shows,
 Exalted Pride his brazen trumpet blows.

Vain of applause, which merit cannot claim,
 Ever the dupe of Treachery will remain ;
 Because he listens not to truth, or fact,
 And his vile conduct is by flattery back'd!

Oh ! could the giddy, vain, and noisy crew,
 The path of wisdom for a while pursue !
 How would their Riches serve to bless mankind ?
 What heart-felt joys would their compassion find ?

How many hearts would ease from dire distress,
 Which deeply rooted, fatally oppress ?
 How many helpless babes would such protect ?
 How many Men of Genius save, now wreck'd ?

When Reason sleeps, Folly flies abroad ;
Pursues its course, in every way abhorr'd !
Prudence is left to teach more righteous ways,
But Folly with her precepts sports and plays.

How different is this Power, when well applied !
Then Fortunes smile, must truly form a pride ;
From this we gain a just, a lasting fame,
A moral, virtuous, and a valued name.

Like the reviving summer's genial rain,
That decks with verdure o'er each cultur'd plain ;
That Nature cheers, inviting forth the sweets,
That Contemplation, and her Wisdom greets.

The drooping flowers, renew'd fragrance yield,
And beauty spreads across the spangled field ;
And teems the Earth, with every food of man,
Perfection hailing, whence the change began !

Wealth is the balm of comfort and distress,
 When in Life's bitter cup misfortunes press ;
 Because it bids the gleam of Hope to shine,
 And to Compassion opens the rich mine :—

Because it Science nurses—Merit feeds—
 And for the cause of Virtue ever pleads ;
 The feeble arm uprears to acts of worth,
 And all the energy of mind calls forth :—

Because it seeks these blessings to expand,
 And with Contentment fills the happy land,
 Industry cheers, and all the Arts protects :
 But all such good, proud Arrogance rejects.

Who can true paint the good it might afford,
 Its various acts of bounty e'er record ?
 Who can relate the heart-felt joy which springs
 From that protection Riches sometimes brings ?

When Reason guides, and Mercy holds the reins,
Then quickly cease our torments and our pains;
The active mind, unfetter'd, will not stay,
Labour itself finds leisure to be gay.

In swiftest race thus Happiness runs round,
No interruption then will e'er be found;
'Tis thus a general scheme of good takes place,
And crime so banish'd, Conscience must solace.

If Riches thus their treasures do impart,
They'll ever prove the comfort of the heart;
Wisdom will sanction all their power,
Reflection lend a balm to soothe each hour.

When all our comforts swift are fled,
When pale Disease is hovering o'er our bed,
The thoughts of good a blessing shall bestow,
And bid defiance to all earthly woe.

Ah ! what avails the follies we have seen—
 Of many idle schemes the partners been !—
 Hours past unheeded, or, alas ! in vain,
 In doing nothing, or in giving pain :—

The hours in festive follies we have lost,
 At price of soul—a sad, a fatal cost !
 The lack of thought—of one just act,
 When dire upbraidings peace protract.

But these are venal crimes, compared to those
 To which our headstrong passions do expose ;
 The man who's deaf to Reason's placid voice,
 Who to Indulgence ever bends his choice.

It is not wise to drown the mind in wine,
 To barter Reason for the Juice of Vine,
 To load your friend with desperate gaming debts,
 Entice the inexperienc'd by alluring bets.

The Jockey bribe, his master to betray,
 By artful lessons teach the game to play;
 'Tis true!—and fatally must prove,
 Honor can ne'er a profess'd Gamester move.

Weakness full oft escapes, where Strength is lost—
 The cork swims buoyant when the vessel's tost:
 'Tis the design which constitutes desire—
 It is for this our Conscience does expire!

If such the hours, so miserably spent,
 They ne'er can yield the blessings of Content;
 But the vile source of misery here below,
 Be e'er a hopeless scene of care and woe!

Riches are, then, a blessing or a curse;
 They either mend us, or they make us wosre;
 At best, they are a dangerous two-edg'd sword,
 But, if well-used, fit to be ador'd.

A

BACCHANALIAN SONG.

BANISH Care, and drink about—

Never heed that bug-bear, gout;

Of sorrow do not take your fill,

It will in time the strongest kill.

CHORUS.

Then fill the sparkling goblet high,

Bright and clear as Hebe's eye!

Now the fragrant juice of vine,

Is turn'd to more delicious wine;

Then, as the Gods, we'll quaff and drink,

On mortal misery never think!

CHORUS.

Then fill the goblet sparkling high,

Bright and clear as Hebe's eye.

It's spirit to our hearts has flown,
 Then farewell sigh, and tear, and groan ;
 Above such will our genius rise,
 We'll drink the nectar of the skies.

CHORUS.

Then fill the goblet sparkling high,
 Bright and clear as Hebe's eye.

The earth begins to reel and dance,
 As though it had been taught in France ;
 Old Care now foots a merry jig,
 And starch Decorum doffs his wig.

CHORUS.

Then fill the goblet sparkling high,
 Bright and clear as Hebe's eye.

Pride and Frolic partners are,
 Gay as Spring, and light as Air ;
 Laughter, holding both his sides,
 By turns to others turns his eyes.

CHORUS.

Then fill the goblet sparkling high,
 Bright and clear as Hebe's eye.

This is the way most mortals live ;
For this we mines of Riches give ;
Feast on the treasures of the heart,
Of which each merry thought's a part.

CHORUS.

Then fill the sparkling goblet high,
Bright and clear as Hebe's eye ;
Let's laugh and drink all the night,
While others for us toil and fight.

THE SENATE.

Written in 1808.

THE Houses now meet, in deep debate fix'd,
And characters sure, most strangely are mix'd ;
Here, shine men of talent and brilliant wit,
But not *one*, alas ! like our lost BILLY PITT !

Some are high bred, and move at their ease,
And some utter truths, which never can please ;
Some jumble a set of words altogether,
And flippantly speak as light as a feather !

Some reason as well as their nature permits,
And deal in nonsense, depriv'd of their wits ;
Some talk of all but the question in hand,
Some to the truth not a moment can stand !

Some in a whisper most softly proceed,
 And some, in a passion, vanity feed !
 A few in right earnest stick to the fact ;
 More, for *invention* are cruelly rack'd.

Some plead their diffidence, with words uncouth,
 And launch a falsehood, cloak'd in *seeming truth* !
 Most vanity drives, some way or other,
 Something that is right completely to smother.

Some deal in quotations, from musty old books,
 Some, trusting to wit, in one never look ;
 He that's well read, to his knowledge appeals,
 Nor thoughts nor expressions from other men steals !

Some aim at one thing, and hit quite another ;
 And some about nothing make quite a pothor :
 Some are so dull, who can guess what they mean ?
 But some hit the mark—and perfectly clean.

Some wander about, like a man in a fog,
 Squeak like a pig, or snarl like a dog ;
 Some puff till their breath completely does fail,
 And crawl in confusion as slow as a snail.

Some, like tir'd horses, come ambling about,
 And some, as to trifles, make terrible rout !
 A few men of sense see their way very clear,
 In the *Cause of their Rights* betray little fear !

With words the best chosen form'd to convince,
 And tho' ridden hard, are seen seldom to wince ;
 Who deal in assertions, devoid of all truth ?
 Perhaps a bald-headed knave, or frolicsome youth ;

Who deny what long had been proved before.
 Some, tho' they are answered, still ask for more ;
 Some quote opinions they don't understand,
 And call their own law, the law of the land.

Some think numbers of words are a fine speech ;
Some expect to convince, because they can preach ;
Some misrepresent what they do understand ;
Some constantly mar what they've taken in hand.

Some think they never can say quite enough ;
Some speak from habit, like taking of snuff ;
To hear themselves prate, queries employ,
And every one's patience completely destroy.

Some follow the leader, do as they are bid :
Others much too proud to bear to be chid :
Some conceit that its right whatever they do,
Tho' they often call white, red, black, and blue !

Some tools are of party, some of deceit,
Some trick up opinions of other's quite neat ;
Some, study'd speeches most dully repeat,
And, if memory fail not, think it a feat.

The opinions of others through life do adopt,
 While round the compass the wind has not stopt;
 What once was the truth, is now the reverse,
 And their new-fangled creeds daily rehearse.

As weather-cocks vary and turn round about,
 They bluster, and swagger, and make a great rout:
 If tried by the words they so often have us'd,
 Good Heavens! their names, how justly abus'd.

If such are our Patriots, sure its no shame,
 Of DECENCY, boldly, thus to make game;
 Who our time and our patience so cruelly tax,
 To the root of regard e'er placing the axe!

ON A VIOLENT FEVER.

THE boiling torments rush thro' every vein,
Each limb is rack'd with sad increasing pain;
The thoughts, distracted, wander unconfin'd,
Painting dire scenes, unknown to Reason's mind!
Those flights of fancy Genius understood,
The steady purpose for a Country's good,
The light of science, and the works of art,
The new impressions of a feeling heart;
Alike in one disorder'd mass o'erthrown!
Nor lend a balm to soothe the frequent groan;
Till blest *HYGÆIA* bids these ills to cease,
And, in their place, restores both health and peace.

S L E E P.

WEARIED with cares and troubles of the day,
Of all the scenes which pass, and what men say,
From Folly's round of idle vain discourse,
Of Malice, Scandal, Falsehood's endless course,
Oh! let me rest awhile.

In silent hour of night less care endure,
And, by sweet sleep protracted, find a cure
For all those ills, which through the day I bore;
Depriv'd of peace, I ever must deplore!
My sorrows to beguile!

Allow me slumbers, ever calmly sweet,
Let tranquil visions waking griefs defeat;
The cares beguiling of my mortal state;
And, if no hope is mine! submit to Fate,
And destiny below!

Then let each wayward idea be at rest,
By which, when waking, I was sorely prest;
May calm Content and Innocence remain,
The constant balm to soothe my care and pain,
Which caus'd distress to flow !

And then, though poor, my friend I may relieve;
The good I wish may for a time believe;
Repay the debts of gratitude I owe;
Foster the thoughts which from affection grow,
E'er through this vale of tears.

If these deceitful dreams dissolve in air,
Will they not with our waking dreams compare?—
And is a life mis-spent, without a guide,
Fit cause for feeding a presumptuous pride,
To save us in our need?

ON A
LOVER'S ABUSING A FLEA,
FOR BITING CLARA'S CHEEK.

YOU blame from CLARA's cheek I drew some blood,
Yet, cruel monster, 'tis my daily food;
But learn to know, before you dare to blame,
If 'tis a crime indeed, thy aim's the same.

Tho' CLARA's still for all the virtues fam'd,
Yet for her coldness she's not lightly blam'd,
If in her heart one grain of hatred mix'd,
Shall it remain, and, rooted there be fix'd?—

Forbid it, Friendship, Honor, Truth, and Love;
But whence the Power that can the proofs remove?
When fatal signs in CLARA'S face appear,
To destroy them, 'tis only I that dare.

No longer shall aspersion to my name belong;
Thus shall my fame be e'er preserved in song;
Thus will her virtue shine without a stain;
Then shall her happy lover not complain.

IMPROMPTU.

LORD CHATHAM was waiting, with sword undrawn;
For what was he waiting?—SIR RICHARD STRAHAN:
SIR RICHARD was waiting to thrust or to sham;
Who hindered him, pray?—The EARL OF CHATHAM.

ON
MISS BECKFORD
WEARING A VEIL.

AS VENUS sailed through the ethereal skies,
The trump of Fame excited much surprize ;
It taught a mortal, who ventur'd to declare,
That MUDIFORD was certain she was there ;
Not having heard from whence this rumour came,
Tho' much incens'd, she knew not who to blame :—
Soon as 'twas whisper'd BECKFORD was the maid,
And that, for once, the truth by Fame was said,
She call'd her darling, roving, archer son,
Said, " Haste, dear boy, away ! fly quick ! be gone !—
" Your bow and arrows leave me for a time ;
" The precious charge I never will resign,

- “ But by my glances give a keener edge,
“ And for their certain aim my truth I pledge:
“ Thus your obedience will be certain gain,
“ Nor of your confidence will e'er complain.
“ This veil to BECKFORD I a present send;
“ When so conceal'd, who will then dare pretend
“ To think her *me*; presuming, in mistake,
“ A mortal, thus, for Beauty's Queen to take.

ON RECEIVING

A BUNCH OF MOSS ROSES,
FROM A LADY.

THOUGH blushing beauty from thy petals leap,
My tears imprest—I CLARA'S absence weep;
And envy Time, that steals my bosom's joy,
Since hope nor fate a solace can supply.
As thine, her charms claim the admiring eye;
Like thine, alas! her beauties too must die!—
Yes; charming flower, thy lovely bloom
Ere long will find a lasting tomb:—
Thy faded state—thy dying odours, say,
Those dewy tears, ah! cannot Fate delay!
Doom'd to fall. Thus does Life depart,
And Time moves on to lacerate the heart;
Thus morn advances, and thus night is seen,
Remembrance leaving as a mournful dream!

POEM.

SHALL Man despair—shall sorrow's rod,
Separate from Hope, and God?
Shall mortal cares his soul destroy,
And no one share his lengthen'd sigh?
Nor, sympathizing, soothe the woes
That oft from faithless friendship flows?
O, wretched lot! O, trying scene;
When nought but grief can intervene!
'Tis Fortune's frown the misery makes,
And, cruel, from our comfort takes
The means to make another blest;
With anguish wounds the sufferer's breast.
Be calm, my soul; nor thus repine!
To Heaven's will thyself resign:
To Him who rules the azure space,
Soar, and seek a resting place.

ON THE
PRINCESS CHARLOTTE.

GRACIOUS as she's good ; young, wise, and fair,
A lovely model of perfection rare !
A beauteous creature ! Heaven it's bounties gave,
To prove our blessing, and the nations save ;
From whose mild sway, a future Golden age
Shall be recorded by the Historic page ;
That greatest Princes may, tho' unborn, trace,
The glorious precepts of illustrious grace ;
And, like our CHARLOTTE, by their worth impart,
A lasting solace to their subjects' heart.

ON
MEETING MRS. ABINGTON,
BY ACCIDENT,
AT SIR WALTER JAMES'S, 1803.

“ **I**S it EUPHROSYNE,” I said,
“ By all the LOVES and GRACES led?”
When o’er the animated stage,
A second OLDFIELD’S youthful age,
With taste and wit a form combin’d,
As fleet and graceful as the wind;
An eye as brilliant as the jest
That fancy’s playful note exprest;
The air and spirit in the part,
That rose above the wings of art:
When Genius, in the comic throne,
Made the enchanting nymph his own!

Where SHAKESPEAR'S mirror brighter shone,
 And BEATRICE was ABINGTON !
 But those delights could only cheer
 The distant eye, the distant ear :
 I envied those her Love carest;
 The dear companion, friend, and guest.
 With blissful chance, the social hour
 Unveils to me her brightest power;
 A thousand charms are brought in view,
 Of a more interesting hue ;
 The jest refin'd, though prompt its birth,
 To charms of ease and polish'd mirth ;
 With soften'd lustre gilds the scene,
 As bright as day, but more serene ;
 The shades of Genius are inspir'd,
 And less diffused, are more admir'd.

ON
RECEIVING A RING,
FROM A LADY.

THE sacred present of a faithful friend,
Whose circle says, Affection has no end !
Yes ! valu'd gift, thy form perfection proves,
And proudly do I say, that WARWICK loves
The gen'rous token ! but the Donor more ;
And will with gratitude the gift explore ;
Receiving pleasure, memory e're will give,
And, tho' oppress'd, with resignation live !
Recalling her, whose fortitude has taught
Each self-forbearing and each virtuous thought :
Her, who so oft has every grief becalm'd,
And adverse moments of their pangs disarm'd !

WRITTEN AT
WARWICK CASTLE,
1815.

O, SOLITUDE! thy sad, thy solemn gloom,
Seems silent as the mansion of the tomb,
Inviting Fancy to the drear abode,
The last sad journey of our mortal road!
How chang'd the scene!—here once music play'd!
And rosy Mirth in festive mazes stray'd!
Then, these domes with social brightness shone,
And WARWICK proudly claim'd such scenes his own!
Then, then the welcome guest the banquet shar'd;
But, now! the smallest boon that fortune spar'd,
Oppression grasps with iron-handed power,
To more than curse and desolate the hour!
Dear home! how lov'd! yet how deserted grown;
It seems, past greatness, like a dream, has flown;

Amidst your charms I pace my anxious way,
 Unseen, alone ! neglected each sad day !
 My hours how silent ! not one cheering voice,
 No faithful friend, to comfort and rejoice :
 But Memory kinder, brings the early scene,
 When woes afflictive could not intervene ;
 When at my side, my first, my d——t w——e,
 With true affection soften'd cares of life,
 Benignly smiling, or with sweet embrace,
 Affording to my soul a fond solace :
 Dear shade ! thy Spirit may be hov'ring near,
 With WARWICK sigh, and share his scalding tear :
 Who, next to thee, can boast a valued joy,
 Heaven in pity does a balm supply :
 Yes ! still I'm rich, a faithful friend I own,
 That Virtue gives, tho' Fortune's smiles are flown ;
 And need I say, or writing, *here*, confess,
 My grateful heart the treasure does address.

THE MOTH AND CANDLE.

O CEASE! vain insect, venture not too bold ;
The flame, tho' beauteous, may a pang unfold ;
Then fly not round the sad, the fatal fire,
By such ambition, surely thou'lt expire ;
Too late deplore, that Wisdom's prudent ways !
Did not preserve, unhappy wretch, thy days !
And thus, in life egregious folly proves,
In silly minds a wrong ambition moves.

L I N E S,

*At the Conclusion of a Letter, with some Myrtle
and Violets, written a Month previous to
Lord WARWICK'S Decease.*

AROUND thy brow the myrtle bind,
Emblem of thy spacious mind;
Take violets, too—how sweet! how rare!
Foster'd by thy native air.

*The Editor received the above in a packet, with
a sprig of Myrtle, and some Warwickshire Violets,
April 3d, 1816. The flowers were cut from the
root, and tied, with some white silk, together, by his
Lordship, which induced Mrs. SERRES to address*

*to Lord WARWICK the underwritten Poem, affected
to tears by the sight of the flowers.*

LOV'D Flowers! thy sweets around me throw
A charm, that seems the balm of woe;
Remembrance brings of early joys,
That soothe my bosom's deepest sighs.

Yes! where you grew, I once was seen,
The happiest playmate of the green;
Have sang and danc'd the hours away,
My temple's wreath the sweets of May!

Or o'er the AVON fondly hung,
And second self saw skip along;
With wonder view'd the glassy tide,
Which a mirror clear supplied:—

Then after butterflies I've fled,
 And trampled many a tulip-bed;
 As the rovers, from my reach
 Flying, could but patience teach.

And so, in life, I've follow'd oft
 Air-built castles, rais'd aloft,
 But shadows fleeting as the air,
 And wak'd from joy to dark despair!

Amidst such ills, kind Friendship's power,
 Has oft beguil'd the anxious hour,
 Sweet Hope bestow'd amidst each grief,
 And, sympathizing, brought relief.

Then hail, sweet proofs, violets lov'd,
 That say, 'twas memory WARWICK mov'd,
 As round thy stalk the knot he drew,
 And sent me *Nature's* sweets to view.

O. W. SERRES.

A PRAYER,

WRITTEN BY

LORD WARWICK, 1815.

O, FATHER Mighty ! Great Jehovah, Lord !

Through this vale of tears thy love afford ;

Through this weary pilgrimage below,

Deign, O Lord, to save from mortal woe :

My footsteps guide, my soul with virtue fill,

And lead me e'er obedient to thy will :

With Wisdom's blessings richly store my mind ;

To live not for myself, but all mankind :

To prove a steward just of Fortune's store,

And, by righteous deeds, thyself adore.

O, PARENT mighty ! Resignation give ;

Instruct, inspire, and teach me how to live !

Amidst each sorrow of my mortal state,

Be THOU my strength, and future hope create ;

Till happier realms my grateful spirits shares,

And Heaven's mercy terminates my cares !

To the Memory

OF THE LATE

EARL OF WARWICK,

Who departed this Life suddenly, May 2d, 1816.

BY MRS. WILMOT SERRES.

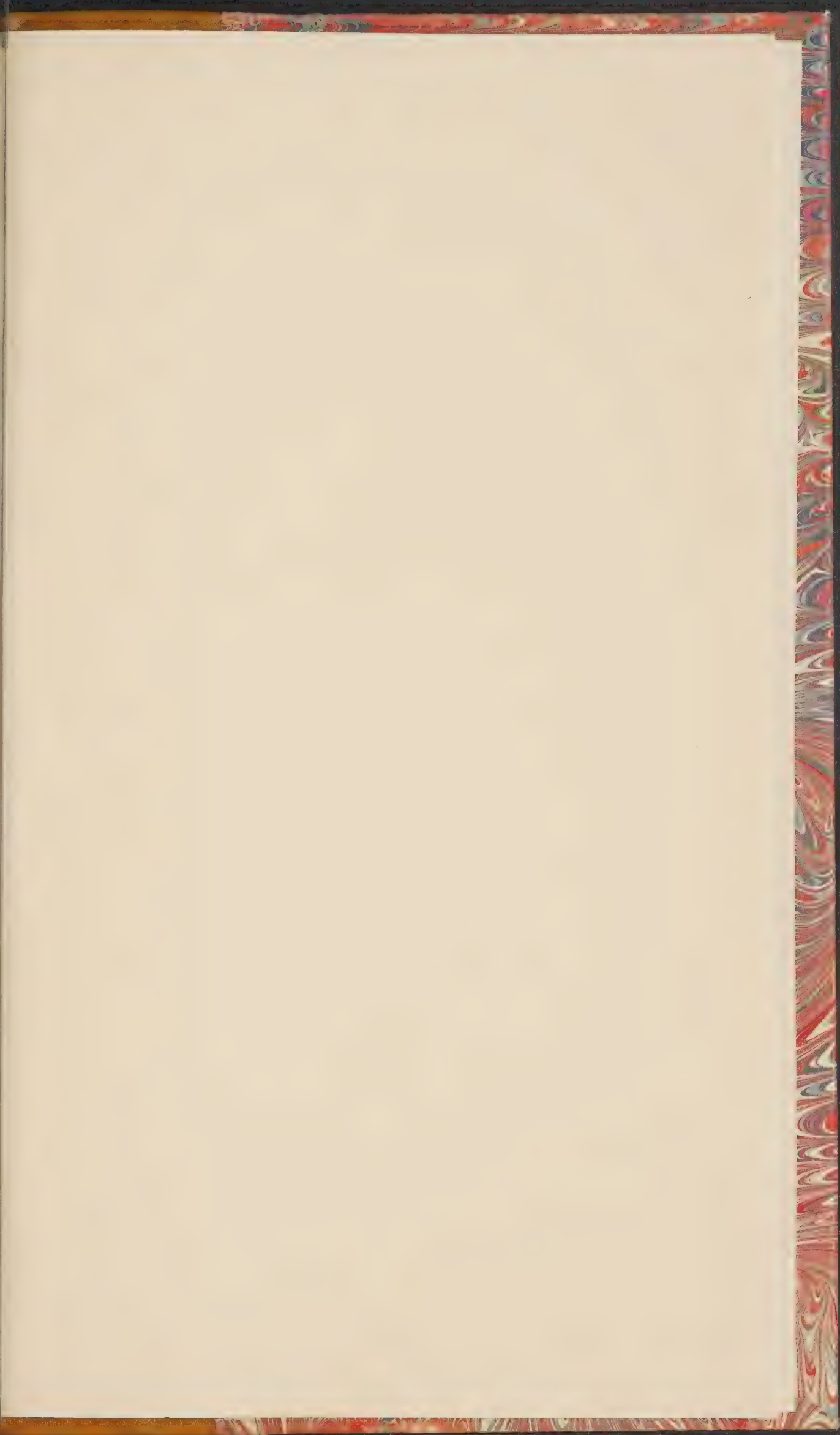
HE rests, reliev'd from mortal care ;
Kind Heaven sooth'd his soul's despair ;
Asunder rent Affliction's rod,
And guided safely to his God ;
With whom he finds a blest solace,
A lasting home, a tranquil place :

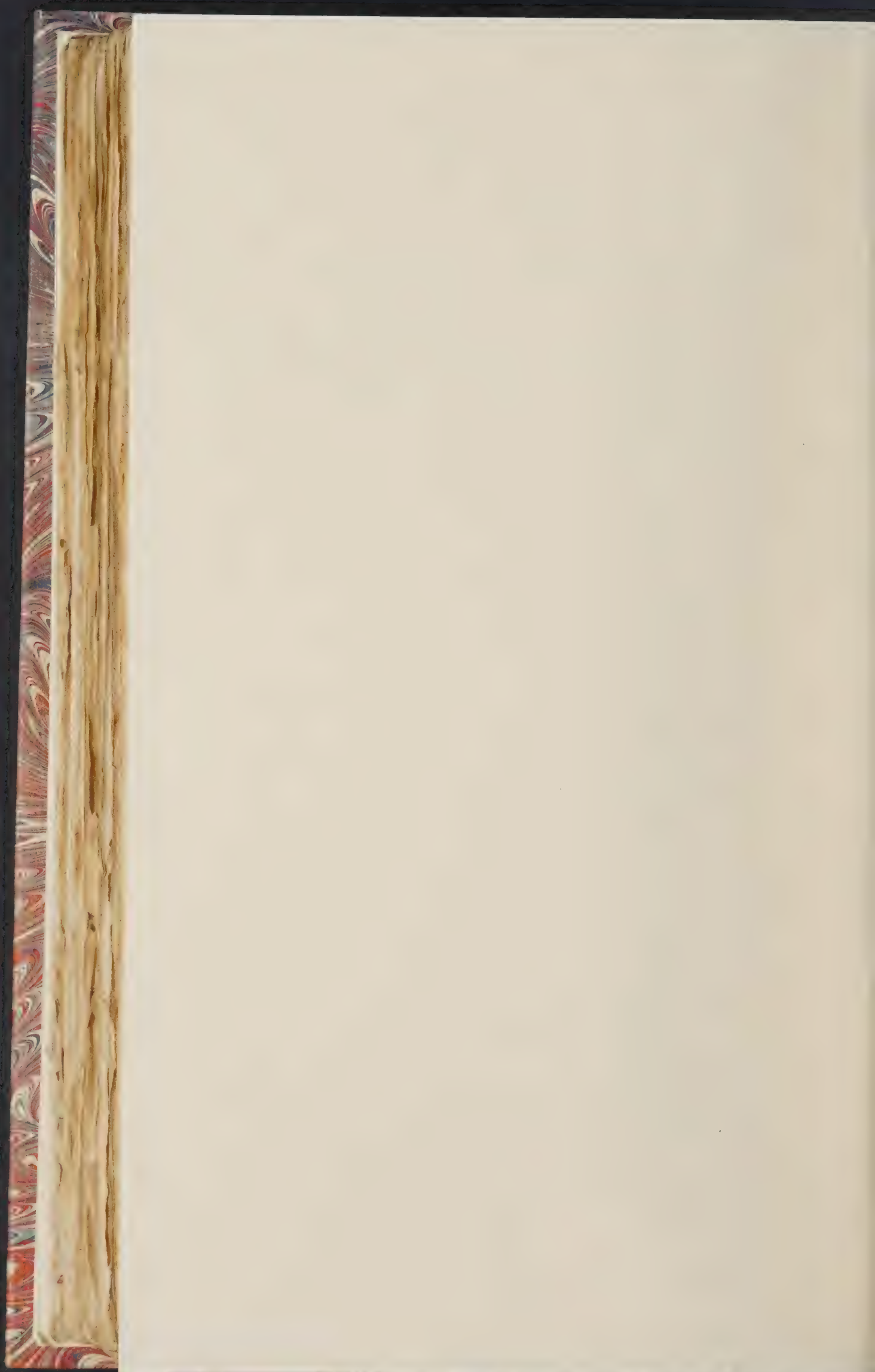
Where worldly strife, nor ills can reach;
 Nor hearts ungrateful anguish teach!
 No pang Oppression dire has given,
 More effect; he's safe in heaven!
 For years of grief and misery,
 There his joys shall doubled be!
 There, no worldly power withhold;
 But GOD, in mercy, great unfold.
 A paradise his wrongs must claim,
 Tho' so on Earth depriv'd of Fame.
 Rest, WARWICK, rest!—thy towers shall tell
 Thy griefs, and Memory, lasting dwell
 On thy hard lot, as mortals say,
 "Avoid the proud, the faithless way!"
 As * * * * * guide their * * * * * from light,
 And travel past thy walls at night,
 Lest precedent of k——d power,
 Should desolate, as thine, their hour;
 Lest withheld their * * * * * should be,
 And F——r's used as ill as thee!
 But joyful sleep, thy journey's o'er,
 Thou'st reached the great, the blissful shore;

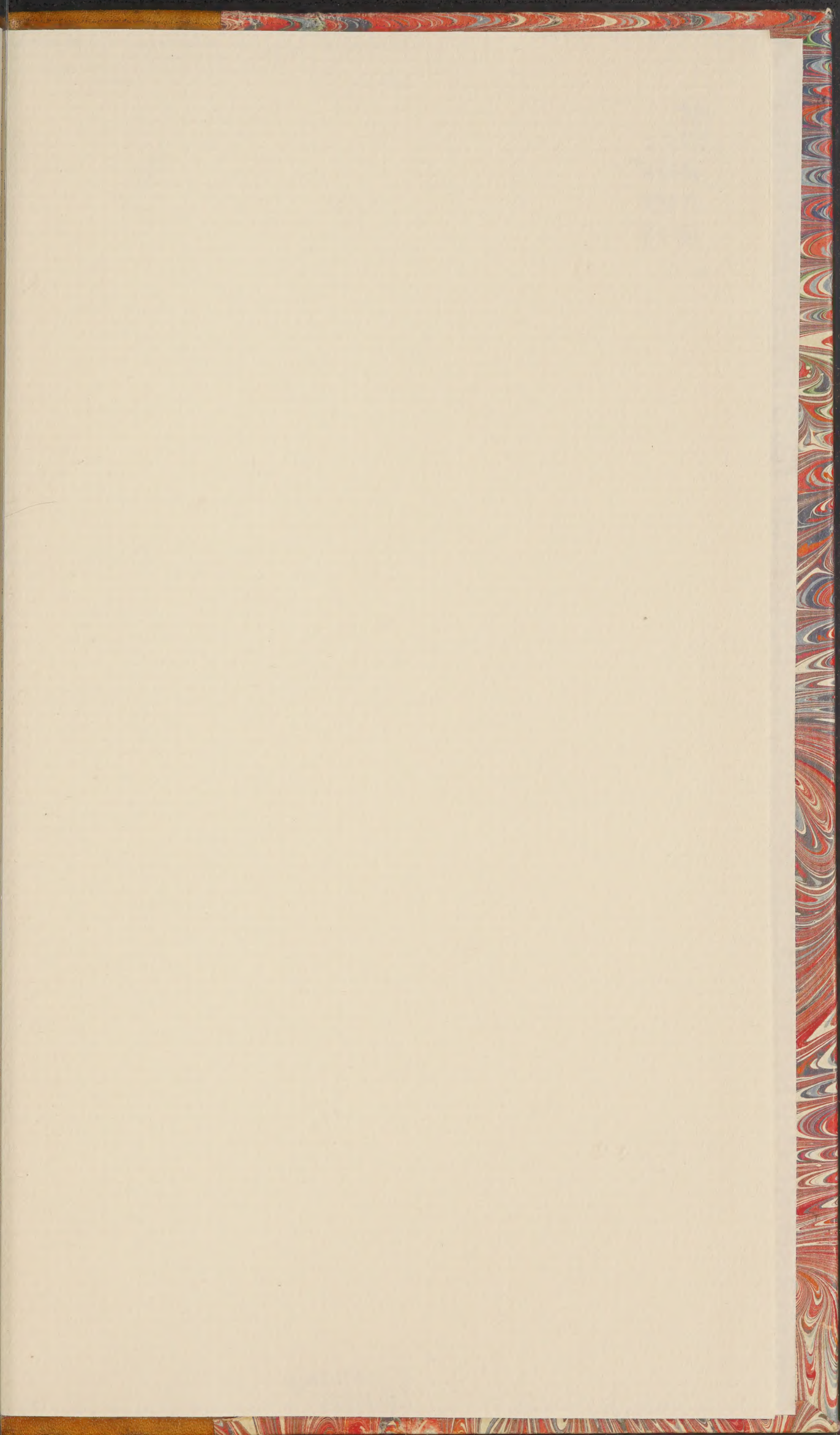
Thou'st past the ordeal dire below,
And bade adieu to worldly woe;
Nor shall thy virtues cease to claim,
A moral, and a lasting Fame !

O. W. SERRES.

THE END.







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